

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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### WORLD CUP



Coach Klinsmann was right: US not ready to win

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## Glitches plague VA burn-pit website

Agency's airborne hazards registry confounds veterans exposed to war zone fumes

By KELLY KENNEDY  
USA Today

WASHINGTON — Veterans Affairs officials this week took down then relaunched a balky new website for veterans who may have been exposed to waste burn pits, but some veterans say they still can't sign up.

Some bases in Iraq and Afghan-

istan burned as much as 240 tons of trash a day in an open pit. The site allows anyone who believes he or she was exposed to fumes from trash burned in those pits, or to other toxins — such as metal, bacteria or particulate matter, inhaled with the dust — to register that exposure with the VA.

Spc. Andrea Neutzling, a former Army reservist who served

at Camp Bucca, Iraq, as a military intelligence specialist in 2005 and 2006, said she spent at least one day a month in the camp's burn pit burning papers.

"I got to see firsthand what all was dumped into our camp pit," Neutzling said. "I started having breathing issues my first winter back from Iraq."

While Neutzling was able to

register after an hour spent on the new site, she said she could not fix incorrect data about the dates she was in the military.

"Trying to register takes a long time, and the page crashes all the time," Richard Gutierrez posted on the Wounded Warrior Project's Facebook page Friday.

SEE GLITCHES ON PAGE 4

## —FORMER AIRMAN— SOARS TO THE TOP OF GERMAN COUNTRY MUSIC SCENE

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Even as he traveled the world working in one of the Air Force's most dangerous careers, James Bailey pursued his passion for music in the little down time that came with life as an explosive ordnance disposal technician.

While stationed in Germany from 2002 to 2005, Bailey produced albums for several American musicians and played in at least three rock bands.

In those days, Bailey never expected to trade in his bomb suit for cowboy boots and find success as the vocalist of a German country music band.

Now a civilian, Bailey joined NightHawk two years ago after answering the band's online ad for a lead singer. Most of the band's five other members — middle-age German professionals — had been playing country music together for more than a decade.

With original songs such as "Hot Dogs and Beer" and "Stomp a Hole in it," NightHawk stands out as an authentic American-style country band in the land of lederhosen, where the closest thing to country is usually a cover of "Sweet Home Alabama" at the downtown bar.

SEE COUNTRY ON PAGE 4

James Bailey, lead singer for the German country band NightHawk, performs at a festival in Mragowo, Poland, last summer.

Courtesy of James Bailey



## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I wondered whether it was a government plot to get rid of old people when I heard about the class."

— Lara Thomson, 79, member of a weekly parkour class adapted for seniors in London

See story on Page 15

## TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. Piece of metal in photo may offer clue to Amelia Earhart's disappearance
2. The A-10 "Warthog" keeps flying
3. Former Marine uses 'bogus as hell' service record; walks away free man
4. Navy official: Refueling of USS George Washington proceeding
5. US personnel in Bahrain prepare for Ramadan

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## MILITARY

# Study: Focus defense budget on rivals

By Travis J. Tritten  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The United States should focus its shrinking defense budget on Russia and China rather than a pivot to the Asia-Pacific region or soft-power solutions such as foreign aid, according to a study published Wednesday by the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The study by the nonprofit think tank challenges 10 years of U.S. defense policy, which has focused on unconventional warfare against terrorist insurgents and, more recently, a shift to the Far East.

But looming sequestration budget cuts and ballooning costs mean the Department of Defense goal from just a few years ago of having a broad and versatile military will not be possible by 2021. Instead, the U.S. will be able to afford only a military that is smaller across the board with sharply reduced capacities, according to the CSIS report "Building the 2021 Affordable Military."

The report's three authors spent two years creating defense budget models for the CSIS that project what military planners will face when mandatory sequestration cuts end in eight years. They say an aggressive modernization effort aimed at containing and deterring Cold War foe Russia and rising power China is the "least bad" option in the face of a money crunch.

"Recent events — such as China's more aggressive actions to secure its claims to 90 percent of the South China Sea and Russia's annexation of Crimea — certainly reinforce the idea that relations between the United States and its near-peer competitors seem more conflict-prone," the report said. Defense spending is set to decline by 21 percent over the next eight years due to the Budget Control Act of 2011, also known as sequestration. Compounding the problem is the fact that by 2021, 15 percent more of the budget will be eaten up by increased personnel and other costs, the think tank found.

The most prudent strategy in the next decade — preparing for a conventional war with another great power — would require



BULLIT MARQUEZ/AP

**U.S. Marines prepare to depart at the end of a joint U.S.-Philippines naval exercise in the northwest Philippines on Monday. A think tank's report says looming budget cuts and increasing costs will impede the goal of having a broad, versatile military by 2021.**

the U.S. in 2021 to cut \$10 billion in today's dollars by reducing troop numbers and using that money instead to boost weapons and equipment by \$3 billion, and would increase science and technology spending by 50 percent, according to the report.

Spending would increase for long-range bombers, attack subs, nuclear modernization, national missile defense, and aerial and space intelligence surveillance reconnaissance, as well as more Army heavy brigade combat teams for "tripwire" deployments to counter Russia and China, the report said.

"This aggressive investment in modernization is aimed at sustaining the U.S. high-tech edge versus Russia and China," the authors wrote.

The strategy also would eliminate some surface forces and aircraft due to lack of money.

There would be fewer carriers, littoral combat ships and guided-missile destroyers. Cuts also would claim F-35 jets and P-8A Poseidon anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare aircraft, as well as Air Force fighters seen as vulnerable to area-denial weapons systems being developed by China

in the Pacific, the report said.

### Discarded strategies

Meanwhile, the military's ongoing Asia-Pacific pivot following the end of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan — a key initiative of the Obama administration — should fall to the wayside, the report said.

The strategy would rely heavily on naval forces, rather than Army ground forces and missile technology, as a maritime buffer specifically against rising Chinese military might. Russia would recede from the forefront.

It would require more carriers, littoral combat ships and destroyers as Marine, amphibious and aviation. Spending on Army heavy brigade combat teams, Air Force fighters, nuclear weapons and missile defense would be reduced.

Cost alone may not be the biggest obstacle. Even under current defense funding, the U.S. is having difficulty focusing on the shift and convincing regional allies of its commitment, the report found.

"The United States is a global power with global interests. A

regional policy, even one as important as the Asia-Pacific, is too difficult to execute," it said.

A third strategy option for 2021 would take \$25 billion in today's dollars from the defense modernization budget and would plow it into foreign aid and nimble military units.

The 25 percent increase over current levels of development aid would go to the Millennium Challenge Corp. foreign aid agency created by Congress in 2004, the international Adaptation Fund climate change aid agency, Internet freedom activities, and other foreign assistance.

The military side of the equation would rely "more on a U.S. global presence provided by Army light infantry and special operations forces to engage in indirect activities," according to the report.

But the strategy is "too optimistic" in light of complex security challenges in Iran, Syria, Mali, Pakistan and elsewhere in the world, the report concluded.

"The effectiveness of an increased reliance on soft power ... to address the underlying social and economic causes of political turmoil is far from clear," it said.

The CSIS report is likely to draw attention from Congress as it works on the coming year's defense budget.

Capitol Hill is largely responsible for the cuts forcing the hard defense choices. Mandatory budget reductions were triggered two years ago after lawmakers could not strike a deal on reducing the federal deficit.

Congress has also refused so far this year to stem rising costs of personnel, health care, acquisitions, and operations and maintenance, which the report found are putting added pressure on defense.

For example, military personnel costs have increased 90 percent since 9/11 while the number of troops has increased by about 3 percent, and that trend is likely to continue, according to the DOD.

Cuts to rein in the ballooning expenses were requested by the department in its annual budget proposal and supported by top military brass.

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## MILITARY

## Country: Ex-Airman recorded some tracks on-base at Ramstein

## FROM FRONT PAGE

NightHawk won the "Band of the Year" prize at the 2014 Country Music Messe in Cologne, a huge festival that draws hundreds of musicians from throughout Europe and thousands of international country music fans. It was NightHawk's biggest award since its formation in 1997.

Since then, NightHawk has gone into overdrive. Last summer, the band released its third album, "Everything Is Alright" — its first with Bailey.

Bailey produced the album under his label Bomb Shack Records. He recorded some of the music in a tiny spare bedroom in his house, padding the walls for better sound. The drums were recorded in the Explosive Ordnance Disposal shop's supply room on Ramstein Air Base, where no padding was necessary since the room is filled with blankets and sleeping bags. For every CD sold, \$1 is added to the EOD Warrior Foundation.

Of the 12 songs on the album, 10 are original, most written by Bailey.

One song is a cover recognizable only by its familiar lyrics. It's a twangy, guitar-picking version of Korn's rap-metal classic "Freak on a Leash."

The Korn cover was inspiration for the band's second video, shot inside a barn in Rammelsbach, a small village near Kusel, where Bailey and NightHawk bass guitarist Achim Rausch live. The video stars members of two local German line dance clubs who pose as zombies and chase the band into the barn. When the frightened band members grab their instruments and start to play, the zombies break into a trance-like line dance.

"He's our fifth singer in the band," Rausch said of Bailey. "We had two American singers before. He's the best."

Bailey, 35, formed his first band while attending high school in Paso Robles, Calif. He could sing and play the guitar and drums. The rock band fell apart after the drummer earned a college football scholarship.

In 1997, a year after graduating, Bailey hitched his star to the Air Force.

That same year, half a world away, keyboardist Dirk Steinhauer, a worker at his family's flour mill and some friends struck up the idea of starting a country band. They found Rausch and guitarist Dieter Sladko, who along with Steinhauer, are the original members still with the group today. The name NightHawk was pulled from the Tom Waits album "Nighthawks at the Diner."

They loved the sound and challenge of country music, so they stuck with it, even as members came and went, including an American drummer and two former U.S. soldiers who joined in Kreisauerslautern — Don Jensen and Joe Hawkins — who were lead singers at different times.

Bailey's career as an ordnance disposal technician took him on assignments around the world, from protecting former President George W. Bush on trips to

Botsswana, South Africa and Turkey, to NATO missions in various countries. From 2002 to 2005, he was on active duty in Germany.

Forced into medical retirement by a diagnosis of narcolepsy, Bailey found his way back to Germany in 2011, when a civilian contractor job at Ramstein became available. With more time on his hands now that he wasn't active duty, he was back making music.

By then, NightHawk was looking for a new lead singer.

"We needed an American front man," Sladko said.

When Bailey saw NightHawk's ad in a local classified website, his eyes popped.

"I saw them in the Irish House back in 2003," he said of the band. "They had this huge light show, huge sound, they're running all over the place, bringing energy to the crowd. So when I saw that ad, I'm just seeing all my prayers being answered."

A skeptical Rausch invited him to his house in Rammelsbach one afternoon to audition. Earlier that day, Rausch had auditioned several Americans who had oversold their singing talents.

Rausch asked Bailey to sing the Eagles' "Hotel California" — the bassist's ultimate test.

"He is the first singer who can do that song," Rausch said. "That is my dream, since I play music, to play 'Hotel California'."

The band, which mixes country with classic hard rock at its live shows, performs the song at every concert.

Rounding out the NightHawk lineup is drummer David Schneider, an information technology specialist for the German government, and guitarist and mandolinist Arndt Müller, a pharmaceutical representative.

Bailey said the best part about being in the band has been "the traveling and experiencing different cultures. NightHawk has performed in Lithuania, Poland, Denmark, Switzerland, Austria, France, Luxembourg and Germany."

"We enjoy the small intimate gigs and love playing for U.S. troops," he said, "but we sure do have a blast at the big festivals."

Americans are among their fans, Bailey said.

Though he will take a break from NightHawk this summer when he goes to the States on a fellowship, the former airman will maintain ties with the band. The group will continue writing and recording songs together, he said.

He will return in September to shoot the band's fourth video, for "Tin Man," a song written by Bailey's buddy, Steve Horton.

"It has been a fun two years," Bailey said, "but we're not finished yet."

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## Officials: US training Somali forces in antiterrorism fight

By CHRIS CARROLL  
AND JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — New details are emerging about the U.S. military mission in Somalia, where it was revealed that as many as 120 U.S. special operators are training and advising local Somali forces in their fight against the Islamist insurgent group al-Shabab.

Defense officials speaking on the condition of anonymity confirmed that teams of advisers have been deploying to the country since 2007 for noncombat missions, and that the numbers have gradually grown over the years.

The advisers in past years worked with troops from the African Union Mission to Somalia, but are now directly training Somali armed forces. Teams of advisers are working in locations throughout the country; the numbers vary as deployments begin and end.

"We've had these advisers working out of AFRICOM for a while," a defense official said. "It's Special Forces doing what they do in the area of training and advising."

While there are no plans to increase the size of the advisory

mission, officials said, the United States' goal is to normalize relations with Somalia, a project that would include more involvement with and support for the Somali National Army.

"We're talking about deepening the whole of government relationship, and that will include military," a defense official said.

AFRICOM declined to discuss in detail the mission in Somalia, emphasizing that the operations have involved limited numbers of troops.

"For security reasons, we will not disclose any specific information regarding numbers of personnel, formations, resources or time lines regarding this commitment," said Ben Benson, an AFRICOM spokesman. "However, we are talking about a small number of personnel. Regarding the reported number of personnel (120 troops), it is important to note that there was no single deployment of such a size; rather, we have operated in smaller groups that have moved in and out of multiple locations in the area."

In recent years, U.S. counterterrorism strategy in Somalia has focused on bolstering the capabili-

ties of African Union forces that have been doing much of the fighting against Islamic militants in Somalia. Efforts have centered on training and equipping those AU troops, many of whom have come from Uganda and Burundi.

U.S. officials have credited AU fighters with turning the tide in Somalia, where al-Shabab was once poised to overrun the capital city of Mogadishu.

Though the group remains a threat, it has been pushed out of numerous former strongholds in Somalia in the past couple years.

Earlier this year, the U.S. military disclosed that a regular presence of U.S. troops — generally less than two dozen — is in Mogadishu at any given time as part of a "military coordination cell."

That team, along with other military personnel scattered around the country, remain focused on building up regional militaries operating in Somalia as well as the Somali force itself.

"Our purpose is to strengthen their capability to bring security and stability to the region," Benson said.

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JOE GROMELSK/Stars and Stripes

## Queueing for monument climb

Tourists wait in line to climb the recently reopened Washington Monument in Washington on Thursday.

## Glitches: Burn pit registry back online, but problems reported

## FROM FRONT PAGE

"What a creak," Joel DeLand wrote. "I can't get past the deployment page because they have it all messed up and won't let me change it. Typical VA."

"Wow. Even the link gives you the run-around," Dan Longenberger wrote. "It takes you to the site, you click on the link there and then you're basically in an infinite loop."

"Tried three times now," Joseph Cormier posted Saturday. "The website is nonhelpful."

VA officials said they were looking into the situation Tuesday.

"The Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry is currently online and operational, but as we increase capacity, we may conduct system maintenance to make necessary updates," VA spokeswoman Walinda West said Tuesday, adding that the updates could cause some lag time.

Last week, 36 servicemembers out of 11,368 were wrongly told they were ineligible before the site was taken down to address the problem, West said.

The site was back up Friday afternoon, as West said it was expected to be, but veterans try-

ing to register over the weekend reported long waits, broken links and frustration.

Others became stuck trying to create a password, or, when they were able to enter the new password, encountered a page that said access is "forbidden."

The registry is open to anyone who served in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, was stationed in Djibouti after Sept. 1, 2001, or who served in the 1991 Persian Gulf War and may have been exposed to oil fires and dust. Registrants may also require a free medical exam.



## MILITARY

## The people have spoken: US goalie is secretary of defense



JULIO CORTES/AP

United States goalkeeper Tim Howard stretches to make one of his record 16 saves during the World Cup round of 16 soccer match between Belgium and the U.S. on Tuesday.

By HENDRICK SIMOES  
*Stars and Stripes*

The game wasn't even over when American fans took to social media to call for goalie Tim Howard to be the next U.S. president or secretary of defense. In the U.S. World Cup 2-1 loss against Belgium on Tuesday, Howard made a record 16 saves in a World Cup match that instantly promoted him to an American hero.

Someone even changed the secretary of defense's Wikipedia entry, showing a picture of Howard and naming him as the incumbent.

Acknowledging the joke — or per-

haps concerned about job security

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel called Howard Wednesday to congratulate him on his record-breaking game and a great run in Brazil, the Pentagon said in a statement. Hagel invited Howard and the entire team to visit the Pentagon.

He also told Howard that, with some training, he could someday become the real secretary of defense.

The Pentagon released a picture of the phone call showing Hagel holding a soccer ball — but it's unlikely Hagel will become the next U.S. goalkeeper.

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## VA chief medical inspector retires

*The Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — The chief medical inspector for the Department of Veterans Affairs has retired, following a report that his office downplayed whistleblower complaints outlining serious problems at VA facilities across the country, acting VA Secretary Sloan Gibson said Wednesday.

Dr. John R. Pierce had served as medical inspector since 2004 and was deputy medical inspector for two years before that.

Pierce's office came under scrutiny last week after the independent Office of Special Counsel issued a scathing report that identified "a troubling pattern of deficient patient care" at VA facilities around the country. The problems were pointed out by whistleblowers but downplayed by the medical inspector and other top officials, the report said.

Gibson met with Special Counsel Carolyn Lerner on Tuesday and reaffirmed his commitment to prevent retaliation against employees who identify or report problems.

Gibson said last week he was deeply disappointed by the allegations presented by Lerner in a June 23 letter to President Barack Obama and vowed a quick response. A departmental review of the special counsel's report is due by Monday.

Pierce is one of a half-dozen high-ranking officials who have resigned or retired from the VA following a national outcry over reports of patient deaths, widespread treatment delays and falsified records at VA facilities nationwide. VA Secretary Eric Shinseki resigned in late May. Since then, several other officials have resigned, including the agency's top health official and the man who replaced him as acting undersecretary for health.

The agency's general counsel and assistant secretary for congressional and legislative affairs also have left in recent weeks.

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## MILITARY



TIMOTHY WILSON/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The USS Mustin, USS Meyer and USS Cable test a carbon fiber-based obscurant fog south of Guam in late June to test its potential effectiveness against anti-ship missiles.

## Navy developing a fog for war

By ERIK SLAVIN  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The U.S. Navy is sea-testing a carbon-fiber “fog” that officials hope will defeat the guidance systems of missiles aimed at its ships.

The Pandarra Fog that shrouded three ships south of Guam recently is one part future tech, one part throwback.

Obscurants have been used by combat aircraft and vehicles since World War II. The simplest systems used metal particles to mask infrared signatures, thereby throwing off a heat-seeking missile. However, guided missiles have advanced to detect other signatures across the electromagnetic spectrum.

China has developed a missile designed to strike a moving aircraft carrier, as part of a bid to deter access to international waters in the East and South China Sea, according to the Defense Department's annual report on China's military. Such advances have left planners looking at ways to counter such missiles, including radar and satellite jamming, cyberwarfare and other methods besides the costly and risky method of shooting one out of the sky.

Pandarra Fog “is a potential game-changer in terms of effectiveness of a layered approach to [missile defense],” said Capt. Dave Adams, head of the 7th Fleet Warfighting Initiatives Group.

In late June, the USS Mustin, USS Meyer and USS Cable tested the obscurant over four days in a variety of sea conditions south of Guam, 7th Fleet officials said.

“This was also the first time ships were placed in the obscurants cloud, and we significantly advanced our hypothesis that there would be no damage to our ships and equipment,” Adams said. “There’s still more work to do, but results all point in the right direction.”

The Army and the Air Force also brought equipment through the fog to test out Pandarra Fog's potential.

The Army has been looking

for a new obscurant since at least 2012, when it solicited bids for \$100,000 in research grants. The grant noted that “current smokes have significant environmental persistence that may pose health hazards.”

Pandarra Fog's composition is still a secret that Navy officials declined to discuss, though Adams said it had been “extensively tested” to ensure no harm to sailors or the environment.

Besides making U.S. ships harder to strike, the fog could also be useful for countertargeting, Adams added.

Pandarra Fog is still likely years away from fleetwide deployment, assuming the service ultimately adopts it; Navy officials must next prepare a roadmap for technical and tactical requirements before the service considers an obscurant program.

Multiple Navy academics have long argued that ship obscurants make sense both tactically and financially.

A 2012 Naval Postgraduate School research paper advocated the adaptation of the Army's Humvee-mounted Coyote units for use on ships. Six of the units, which cost about \$150,000 each, could cover a strike group of four to five ships, according to authors Dylan Ross and Jimmy Harmon.

A 30-pound box of obscurant, which would last about four min-

utes, costs about \$1,000, according to Thomas Culora, a Naval War college professor who called for an obscurants program in a 2010 paper.

Meanwhile, a single Chinese DF-21D missile costs \$5 million or more, Culora said.

“Employment of a relatively low-cost obscurant system would prompt potential opponents to re-examine and adapt their current missile systems,” Culora said. “This too begins to tip the cost differential back in favor of the defense.”

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## Critic of religion in military defends pay

Stars and Stripes

Over the last decade, Military Religious Freedom Foundation founder and president Mikey Weinstein has been a vocal advocate for the separation of church and state in the military.

According to an Air Force Times examination of MRFF tax filings, what Weinstein pays himself for running the nonprofit MRFF is well above the typical top salaries at most nonprofits.

Weinstein defended his salary, citing the amount of work and hours he devotes to his cause.

In 2012, Weinstein received total compensation worth \$273,355 — about 47 percent of all money the MRFF raised through contributions and grants that year, according to IRS filings accessed on the nonprofit transparency website GuideStar.

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America paid its founder and CEO Paul Kieckheoff \$145,000 in 2012, or a little more than 2 percent of the \$6.1 million IAVA raised that year. Wounded Warrior Project CEO Steven Nardizzi received \$311,538 in 2012, or 0.2 percent of the nearly \$155 million that charity raised that year. Nardizzi was paid more than Weinstein in actual dollars, but Wounded Warrior Project's revenues far exceed the \$584,351 the MRFF brought in during 2012.

Weinstein's compensation is more than double the average

compensation for nonprofit CEOs, the Times reported, noting that the charity CEOs nationwide received a median \$125,942 in compensation in 2011, citing the most recent study by the watchdog group Charity Navigator.

Small charities' CEOs typically earned \$95,661, the Times wrote, again citing Charity Navigator, which said the MRFF falls below the budget threshold Charity Navigator uses for small nonprofits.

Weinstein votes on his own salary as part of a three-member board that is smaller than the five-member board Charity Navigator recommends for nonprofits. And MRFF counts him — a paid employee — as an independent voting board member, an apparent violation of IRS rules.

In interviews with Air Force Times, Weinstein — the only compensated employee at the MRFF — strongly defended his compensation.

“I handle a lot of different hats here,” Weinstein said. “I handle all development and do all the fundraising. My wife's a full-time volunteer and has the term development director, but I'm the one that does it. I handle all of the clients' care and intake, and all of the interface with the clients. I handle all of the stuff with the press.”

“It ends up being about a 15-hour-a-day workweek, seven days a week. It's a tremendous amount of time and effort, and we feel it's perfectly appropriate.”

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## MILITARY

# Panel's report sets stage for pay reform

By TOM PHILPOTT

Military folks upset that recent defense budgets have targeted their pay and benefits have no reason to fear a new 358-page "interim" report from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission.

The nine-member, blue-ribbon panel does present, in impressive detail, the full range of military and veteran pay, allowances and benefits that Congress has enacted in recent decades, including the past 13 years of war. It's a document recruiters could use to great effect, if not for its left.

But the commission reaches no conclusions on whether any of the compensation offerings, or their combined effect, is excessive. Therefore, it gives little comfort to budget analysts and even military leaders who want to dampen compensation costs through caps on pay raises and housing allowances, increases in health care fees and cuts to the commissary benefit.

Commission Chairman Alphonse Maldon Jr. said the intent of the interim report is to present a "comprehensive resource tool" for understanding military compensation. It shows what commissioners have learned the past year, and "sets the stage" for critical analysis and recommendations to normalize compensation. A final report to President Barack Obama and Congress is due next February.

The breadth of compensation programs for military members, retirees, reserve components, veterans and families is impressive, delivered across several federal departments. The total funding in fiscal 2014: \$340 billion.

Commissioners don't suggest here that cuts or even major policy changes are warranted due to cost growth alone. Their goal is to replace outdated programs, and "piece-meal" steps taken over time to solve compensation needs, with a more modern, flexible and efficient system.

"Although the Commission found that compensation funding has increased substantially over the last two decades, as has been repeatedly reported in the national press, these simple trends need to be examined in greater detail before any conclusion can be drawn regarding fiscal sustainability," the report says.

It echoes a point made often by military associations and veterans' groups in answer to critics

## MILITARY UPDATE

who say compensation growth has been excessive the past decade or more. Any cost growth comparisons "are highly dependent on when the comparisons are begun," the report says.

For example, Congress did give the military annual pay raises from 1998 through 2010 that exceeded private-sector wage growth, as measured by the government's Employment Cost Index, or ECI.

"Beginning the comparison in 1976, however, shows the post-1998 pay raises to be a reaction to military pay raises that were lower than ECI from 1982 through 1998," the report says. "Indeed, policymakers made a concerted effort around the turn of the 21st Century to increase compensation ... to counteract recruiting and retention challenges ..."

A second factor that boosted compensation the past 15 years was general inflation in the economy. Overall prices rose 43 percent, but U.S. health costs jumped 76 percent and education costs 129 percent.

Ways to boost compensation spending, the commission says, with additional manpower recruited and health care expanded to treat war-related injuries including post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injuries.

Finally, Congress did approve new military benefits. The commission highlights five since 2001 that all had big price tags:

■ Enactment of Tricare for Life for Medicare-eligible military retirees and family members.

■ An end to a reduction or "offset" at age 62 in Survivor Benefit Plan payments, tied to eligibility for Social Security.

■ Post-9/11 GI Bill, a \$10 billion-per-year expansion of education benefits for servicemembers, veterans and their families.

■ Concurrent receipt, which allowed more than 500,000 military retirees to draw both full military retired pay and VA compensation for service-connected disabilities, ending a costly, dollar-for-dollar offset.

■ Extra increases to Basic Allowance for Housing so rates now cover 100 percent of median rental costs, versus

85 percent before 2005.

The commission notes that administration's 2015 budget seeks to slow compensation growth by capping pay and BAH increases and raising Tricare fees. The Congressional Budget Office just this week suggested that the Department of Defense budget to meet Budget Control Act limits could include raising Tricare fees on retirees and ending concurrent receipt for disabled retirees.

The commission, however, isn't ready to say such dramatic changes are needed to make personnel account-sustainable. Indeed, the report makes another point often argued by military personnel advocates: Despite significant growth in personnel costs, funding for compensation still repre-

sents roughly 30 percent of the DOD budget.

The commission acknowledges that defense budgets face tough budget challenges. It also concedes that having compensation costs equal to a third of total defense budgets is not "evidence of fiscal sustainability."

Indeed, it says, whether personnel costs are sustainable might be better assessed by comparing growth of pay, health care, retirement and quality-of-life programs the past 15 years with growth of private-sector wages using the ECI, or with the economy using Gross Domestic Product.

The report presents this comparison in a line graph without comment. However, the lines depicting military and VA health

costs since 1998 are seen soaring above those for the ECI and GDP. Elsewhere, the report notes that Tricare Prime premiums rose by only 17 percent from 1999 to 2013, while premiums for private sector workers increased 196 percent.

What commissioners actually want to change about military pay and benefits won't be known for seven months.

We do know, and the interim report emphasizes, that the final report will not call for cuts to retirement benefits for current members or to those already retired. The commission charter doesn't allow it.

Send comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA, 20120, email milupdate@aol.com or twitter: Tom Philpott @Military\_Update.

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### AF: Malfunctions led to November Reaper crash

Air Force officials said that GPS and guidance system malfunctions led to the crash of a multimillion-dollar MQ-9 Reaper drone into Lake Ontario in November.

The resulting failures sent the 10,500-pound aircraft descending in a clockwise spiral at 5,000 feet per minute, with crews unable to change its course.

"I can't recover it," the aircraft's unnamed pilot said, according to an Air Combat Command Accident Investigation Board report released Tuesday.

The Reaper drone from the 174th Air Combat Wing in Syracuse, N.Y., crashed Nov. 12 about 12 miles from the lake's eastern shore and 35 miles from Fort Drum's Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield, where it took off for a training exercise at 10:42 a.m.

From wire reports



## PACIFIC

Hiroo Endo, left, Ed Ikuma, center, and Yoroku Ito were award France's Order of the Legion of Honor for their deeds in France during World War II with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.



PHOTOS BY WYATT OLSON/Stars and Stripes

French Rear Adm. Ann Cullere kisses Hiroo Endo on the cheek after pinning on him the ribbon of France's Order of the Legion of Honor during a ceremony Wednesday at Pearl Harbor.

## Japanese-Americans receive high honor for WWII actions

By WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — Hiroo Endo offered a concise synopsis of World War II on Wednesday afternoon.

"I lost some cousins. I lost some friends," he said in a voice made frail by his 91 years. "That's what war is about. You kill them or they kill you."

Endo and five other Japanese-American veterans of the Army's famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team were presented France's Order of the Legion of Honor aboard the French ship *Prairial*, which was docked in Pearl Harbor for the monthlong Rim of the Pacific exercise.

The 442nd was largely composed of Nisei, children born in America of parents who emigrated from Japan. Most Nisei served in the European theater, even as the United States enacted a policy of rounding up and confining Americans of Japanese descent in internment camps.

The Legion of Honor award was founded by Napoleon and is considered a true soldier's medal, said Rear Adm. Ann Cullere, French naval commander, French Polynesia, who presented the ribbons to the men on the deck of the *Prairial*. After pinning on the red medals, she kissed each man on both cheeks.

Receiving the honor were Endo, Shiro Aoki, Albert Brum, Yasunori Deguchi, Ed Ikuma and Yoroku Ito. Aoki was unable to at-

tend, and his award was accepted by a close friend.

Asked afterward about his thoughts on receiving the award, Deguchi struggled to find the right words.

"How can you explain what this feels like?" he said, as though speaking to himself.

"I feel really honored. But I still think it's not what I did personally but it was the collective effort of the unit that you might say accomplished some of the things that we thought should be done."

Cullere said the "little iron men" had earned "France's eternal gratitude" for their part in battling the Nazis in France. War correspondents had dubbed the soldiers of the 442nd as "little men of iron" because of their fierce fighting in Italy. Their intensity earned them another nickname: "The Purple Heart Battalion."

The unit is known for its fabled rescue of the Lost Battalion in the Vosges Mountains in France in October 1944. Soldiers from the 141st Texas Regiment were surrounded behind enemy lines with little food or water, and men of the 100th Infantry of the 442nd battled almost nonstop for six days to eventually rescue 211 men.

They lost almost as many men in the rescue attempt, according to some accounts. Perhaps not surprising for a combat unit whose motto was "Go for broke."

"Simply, don't hold back," Deguchi said of the motto, emblazoned on his shirt. "Give it all."

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## Police: Expired MREs being sold on Korean black market

Group could face charges for selling rations stored in unsanitary conditions

By ASHLEY ROWLAND  
AND YOO KYONG CHANG  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Police are investigating nine South Koreans for their role in a ring that collected discarded Meals, Ready to Eat after U.S. military exercises and sold them on the black market.

South Korean police say members of the group, which included a 76-year-old man, could face prosecution not for stealing the MREs but rather for peddling food that had been stored in unsanitary conditions.

"They didn't consider consumers' health as long as they could make money," an officer with the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency said this week, speaking on customary condition of anonymity. Some of the confiscated MREs were found in a storage unit near Pohang that had no air conditioning, according to police.

The group, which included several contractors who worked on U.S. Forces Korea bases, picked up unused MREs that had been thrown away or earmarked for burning after military exercises and then sold them to black marketers, according to police. The MREs were eventually sold in

**'They didn't consider consumers' health as long as they could make money.'**

Seoul Metropolitan  
Police Agency officer

markets in cities including Seoul, Dongducheon and Yangju.

One dealer sold MREs at a market near Seoul's Dongmyo station for about 30,000 won, or about \$29.70, per box, accepting only cash so police couldn't track his activities.

In all, authorities confiscated about 130 boxes containing 10 to 12 MREs each since May, according to a statement released by Seoul police Tuesday. Police said the MREs were taken from Kunsan Air Base and a South Korean-owned training field in Pohang, which is also home to the U.S. Marines' Camp Muiuk.

Police began investigating the ring in May as part of a government crackdown on food safety violations. Members of the group are suspected of violating South Korea's Food Sanitation Act because they did not report their activities to the Ministry of Food

and Drug Safety.

The Seoul police officer said members of the group will not face theft charges, because they "gathered" but did not steal the discarded MREs.

A Seoul detective said that in addition to illegally distributing the MREs, the group violated a ban on the importation of U.S. military combat rations.

Five other South Koreans are under investigation for selling prepackaged military meals from other countries, including Great Britain, a press release said.

The case will be sent to the Seoul Central District Prosecutor's office in mid-July. If charged and found guilty, the South Koreans could face fines of as much as 100 million won, about \$99,000 each, or jail sentences of as much as 10 years, the officer said.

MREs have long been a hot item on the black market in South Korea, where they are bought by fishing and camping enthusiasts, or by those simply curious about U.S. food. A popular Korean reality television show, which features aspects of life in the armed forces, has also increased interest in military culture, including MREs, police said.

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## MILITARY

## Air Force reinstates death sentence for airman

By NANCY MONTGOMERY  
Stars and Stripes

The Air Force appellate court this week reinstated the death sentence of Andrew Witt, reversing its decision in August that struck down the sentence on grounds of inadequate defense efforts.

In an opinion issued on Monday, the Air Force Court of Appeals said that Witt's court-martial on charges he'd murdered a young married couple had been fair, that his lawyers had been competent and that any mistakes they had made were inconsequential.

"The overwhelming weight of the evidence paints a picture of a cold, calculated, vicious crime, carried out in the furtherance of a purely protectionist and self-serving objective," the opinion states. "(T)he evidence in aggravation was powerful, plentiful, and persuasive."

The decision comes a decade, almost to the day, after Witt stabbed to death Senior Airman Andrew Schliepsiek and his wife, Jamie, in their home on Warner Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

On the morning of July 5, 2004, the pair — in their mid-20s, both from Peoria, Ill., and married for two years — were a week away from leaving the Air Force to return to civilian life.

That Witt had killed the couple was never in doubt. His three-law-



Witt

yer defense team worked to spare him from the death penalty by trying to convince the jury that he'd been unable to form premeditation to murder in part because

of the effects of adrenaline.

In August, three members of a five-judge appellate panel agreed that deficiencies in the defense by Witt's lawyers, none of whom had tried a capital case before, had caused Witt not to receive a fair trial for sentencing.

The judges were particularly troubled by the fact that the lawyers had not explored whether Witt's actions might have resulted from a possible traumatic brain injury he suffered from a motorcycle crash four months before the murders. Those judges also said that the defense should have pursued evidence about Witt's mother's inpatient mental-health care when he was a teenager, and that it should have sought testimony from a guard who thought Witt was remorseful.

"(H)ad the (jurors) been confronted with this additional mitigating evidence, there is a

reasonable likelihood that at least one member would have struck a different balance between the aggravating and mitigating factors and would have returned with a different sentence," those judges wrote in the August opinion.

But in Monday's decision, four of six appellate judges reconsidering the case after a request by Air Force prosecutors disagreed.

"Although the motorcycle accident is undisputed, it has never been determined that the appellant sustained a TBI. But even assuming he did, not all TBIs make a person more prone to violence." More importantly, the opinion continued, most people testified that they noticed no changes in Witt's behavior after the accident.

Why Witt, who had no criminal record, committed the brutal murders was never clear. According to testimony, Witt had engaged in a series of heated phone calls with Schliepsiek, who was incensed that Witt had made a pass at his wife, and Witt was apparently concerned that Schliepsiek might ruin him. Witt also said that he didn't want to leave witnesses.

Prosecutors suggested he was just "evil."

Witt stabbed Schliepsiek twice, paralyzing him, then turned the knife on an intervening friend, Senior Airman Jason King, who broke free and ran.

Witt next smashed through the locked bedroom door to get to Jamie Schliepsiek, as her husband, lying bleeding on the floor, managed to call 911, all the while pleading for his wife's life. Witt stabbed her five times and broke her arm. Then he stabbed Andrew once more, through the heart.

Regarding the issue of Witt's mother's record of mental-health treatment, the appellate court found, "the weight of the evidence adduced at trial suggests this theme would have been an even harder sell than the one involving the motorcycle accident and the possibility of a TBI."

"In other words, it is not enough for the appellant to show that his counsel overlooked certain mitigation and extenuation evidence and that such evidence might have made a difference; rather, the appellant must show that such overlooked evidence would have been sufficiently persuasive to give rise to a reasonable probability of a different outcome."

It's unlikely that Monday's decision by the military appellate court will be the last word. The case will now go before the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. That is likely to happen within about 18 months.

The sentence could then be appealed to the Supreme Court. Upon any Supreme Court review,

it would be up to the president to approve the sentence. A further appeal is then possible before federal judges.

Eleven men sentenced to death at courts-martial since 1984 have had their death sentences overturned and were subsequently sentenced to life in prison, according to the Death Penalty Information Center.

No military member has been executed since 1961, when Army Pvt. John Bennett was hanged for raping an 11-year-old Austrian girl seven years earlier and attempting to drown her.

Witt, now his early 30s, is the only airman on death row at Fort Leavenworth's prison. All five others are soldiers, all enlisted except for former Maj. Nidal Hasan.

The lengthy death penalty process, with its numerous delays and hearings in a variety of courts over what can be decades, takes a toll on survivors.

"There's anguish, anxiety. There isn't a day that I don't think about it," Dave Schliepsiek, Andrew's father, said in August. "If they would have given [Witt] life without parole, I'd have been upset, but would I have been in a better place? Yes. But when they gave him the death penalty, they also gave it to me. Now, any less than the death penalty is a loss to us."

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## NATION

# US seeks more security at some overseas airports

By KEN DILANIAN  
AND EILEEN SULLIVAN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence officials are concerned that al-Qaida is trying to develop a new and improved bomb that could go undetected through airport security.

There is no indication that such a bomb has been created or that there's a specific threat to the U.S., but the Obama administration on Wednesday called for tighter security measures at foreign airports that have direct flights to the U.S.

American intelligence has picked up indications that bomb makers from Yemen-based al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula have traveled to Syria to link up with the al-Qaida affiliate there, known as the Nusra Front, according to a counterterrorism official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was

not authorized to speak publicly about the matter by name. The enhanced security measures have been in the works for the past month, he said.

Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula long has been fixated on bringing down airplanes with hidden explosives. It was behind failed and thwarted plots involving suicide bombers with explosives designed to be hidden inside underwear and explosives secreted inside printer cartridges shipped on cargo planes.

During the past year, Americans and others from the West have traveled to Syria to join the fight against the Syrian government. The fear is that fighters with U.S. or other Western passports, who therefore are subject to less stringent security screening, could carry such bombs onto American planes.

The counterterrorism official declined to describe the bomb. Officials in the past have raised



FRANK RUMPFENHORST, DPA/AP

Passengers queue Thursday at a security checkpoint at the airport in Frankfurt, Germany.

concerns about nonmetallic explosives being surgically implanted inside travelers' bodies, designed to be undetectable in pat-downs or metal detectors.

The call for increased security was not connected to Iraq or the recent violence there, said a second U.S. counterterrorism official who was not authorized to speak publicly by name. Another U.S. official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said the increased security measures had nothing to do with the upcoming July Fourth holiday or any specific threat.

"The extra security is out of an 'abundance of caution,' the U.S. official said.

"People should not overreact to it or overspeculate about what's

going on, but there clearly are concerns centered around aviation security that we need to be vigilant about," Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson said late Wednesday on MSNBC.

British airports stepped up security after the reports.

Authorities said in a statement that passengers "should not experience significant disruption" and that there would be no change in the threat level. "The safety and security of the public is our paramount concern," the statement said. "The UK has some of the most robust aviation security measures and we will continue to take all the steps necessary to ensure that public safety is maintained."

## Arthur approaches NC; vacationers head out

RODANTHE, N.C. — Arthur strengthened to a hurricane early Thursday and threatened to give North Carolina a glancing blow on Independence Day, prompting thousands of vacationers and residents to leave parts of the state's popular but flood-prone Outer Banks.

Hatteras Island was under a mandatory evacuation order for visitors and residents, with officials asking an estimated 35,000 people to leave through North Carolina Route 12, the only road on and off Hatteras.

Forecasters expect Arthur to whip past the Outer Banks on Friday without making landfall but still bringing rain, heavy winds, storm surge and dangerous rip tides.

On Thursday morning, Arthur was about 300 miles southwest of Cape Hatteras and moving north about 9 mph with maximum sustained winds of 80 mph.

## After suspect dies, FBI seeks child rape victims

Investigators combing through a stash of more than 50,000 images and videos of child pornography hidden in a bedside table in Matthew Coniglio's Georgia home made an even more horrifying discovery: cassette tapes they say show him raping and molesting girls.

All were unconscious, apparently drugged, FBI Special Agent William Kirkconnell, who viewed the tapes, told The Associated Press.

Many of the victims' faces cannot be clearly identified, so investigators don't know how many girls were attacked. The youngest victim appears to be about 10 years old.

Authorities' best chance for resolving the raft of unanswered questions ended on April 20. Ten days after his arrest on child pornography charges, Coniglio hanged himself in his Savannah jail cell in an apparent suicide.

## Report on simpler stem cells withdrawn

NEW YORK — U.S. and Japanese scientists who reported that they'd found a startlingly simple way to make stem cells withdrew that claim Wednesday, admitting to "extensive" errors in the research.

In two papers published in January in the journal *Nature*, the researchers said that they'd been able to transform ordinary mouse cells into versatile stem cells by exposing them to a mildly acidic environment. Someday, scientists hope to harness stem cells to grow replacement tissue for treating a variety of diseases.

While researchers have long been able to perform such transformations with a different method, the newly reported technique was far simpler, and the papers caused a sensation — and some skepticism — in the research community. They were also widely reported in the media, including by The Associated Press.

From The Associated Press

# Poll: Obama, Bush, worst of presidents after World War II

By CHUCK RAASCH  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

WASHINGTON — Apparently "absence makes the heart grow fonder" works in politics, too. According to a new Quinnipiac University national poll, pluralities of Americans think the last two presidents have been the worst since World War II.

The poll, released Wednesday, says that 33 percent of respondents called Barack Obama the worst president during the past 70 years, and 28 percent said that of George W. Bush. They outranked all other presidents for that dubious distinction.

Ronald Reagan (35 percent), Bill Clinton (18) and John F. Kennedy (15) scored best when respondents were asked to name the best president since World War II. Some 8 percent said that of Obama.

Missourian Harry S. Truman came in sixth-best of the 12 presidents since World War II, with 4 percent calling him the best (a point behind Dwight Eisenhower). Truman and Kennedy had virtually no respondents calling them the worst, and therefore came across best in that category. Richard Nixon (13 percent) and

Jimmy Carter (8 percent) were chosen as the third- and fourth-worst presidents in this poll.

Of the two judged worst, respondents were split when asked who was better — Obama (39 percent) or George W. Bush (40 percent).

Adding to the election-year woes for Obama and Democrats in the 2014 congressional races, 45 percent of respondents said the country would have been better off had Mitt Romney defeated Obama in 2012, while 38 percent said the United States would have been worse off.

If there is any consolation for Obama, it is that 34 percent of respondents called George W. Bush the worst president since World War II when a similar question was asked in 2006, the sixth year of Bush's presidency. Obama is now in the sixth year of his.

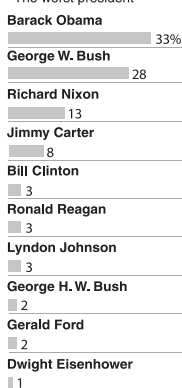
Obama's job approval in this new poll is 40 percent; 53 percent disapproved.

Obama gets overall negative marks on handling of most issues, except for the environment, according to the poll. The highest disapproval — 58 percent — came on his handling of health care, as the rollout of the Afford-

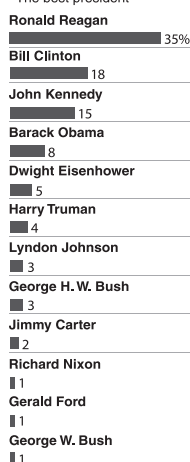
## Best and worst presidents

How registered voters rank U.S. presidents since 1945, according to a new poll:

• The worst president



• The best president



NOTE: No response for Harry Truman, John Kennedy with "worst president" question.

SOURCE: Quinnipiac poll of 1,446 registered voters, June 24-30, 2014. Margin of error: +/- 2.6 percentage points

able Care Act continues to be controversial. Quinnipiac says it surveyed 1,446 registered voters nation-

wide by cellphone and land line June 24-30, and that the survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.6 percentage points.

JUDY TREMBLE/MCT



## WORLD

## Japan to lift some sanctions on N. Korea

TOKYO — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe took a tentative step toward improved relations with North Korea on Thursday by announcing his government will lift some of its sanctions in response to the North's decision to reopen a probe into the fate of at least a dozen Japanese believed to have been abducted by North Korean agents decades ago.

Abe said he was satisfied that a North Korean investigation committee has the mandate to carry out a serious investigation into the abductions, though previous deals with the North have fallen through. Japan will continue to abide by U.N. sanctions on North Korea over its nuclear and missile programs.

"We have determined that an unprecedented framework has been established, where an organization that can make decisions at a national level ... will be at the forefront of the investigations," Abe said. "However, this is only a start. We are determined to do everything we can, with a renewed effort, toward a comprehensive resolution."

## US ship sails off to destroy Syrian weapons

GIOIA TAURO, Italy — A United States cargo vessel loaded with hundreds of tons of Syria's chemical weapons left an Italian port Wednesday to destroy the arms at sea as part of the international effort to rid Syria of its chemical weapon stockpile.

The MV Cape Ray steamed out of the southern Italian port of Gioia Tauro after a 12-hour operation to transfer the chemicals from a Danish ship, the Ark Futura.

It was heading into the open sea, where it will neutralize the chemicals — including mustard gas and the raw materials for sarin nerve gas — with special machinery outfitted in its cargo hold.

A statement issued Wednesday from the U.S. Defense Department said "neutralization operations will soon begin" in international waters and is expected to take several weeks to complete.

## Toronto mayor says he has used 'every drug'

TORONTO — Toronto Mayor Rob Ford said Wednesday he's used "every drug you can probably think of" and blamed substance abuse for the racist and homophobic language he's used.

Ford returned to work this week after a two-month stay in rehab for drugs and alcohol. The mayor of Canada's largest city said he's used cocaine, marijuana and hallucinogenic mushrooms, but not heroin. He acknowledged he snorted crack but denied he was a crack addict.

"You name it, I've abused it," he said.

Ford refused to say whether he'd resign if he falls off the wagon again. Asked if that was good enough for the people of Toronto, Ford said it would be up to them to decide in the Oct. 27 election.

From The Associated Press

## ISIL frees 32 Turkish truck drivers

By RYAN LUCAS  
AND SUZAN FRASER  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Sunni militants Thursday released 32 Turkish truck drivers who were captured during a fighting offensive across northern and western Iraq last month, Turkey's foreign minister said.

Speaking to reporters in Ankara, Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said the truckers were heading toward Irbil, the capital of the semiautonomous Kurdish region of northern Iraq, and would be flown later to Ankara.

The drivers were well, although one may need special treatment, he said, without elaborating or giving any details about their release.

Militants from the extremist group known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant seized them June 9 in Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city. Three days later, they took another 49 people from the Turkish consulate in the city.

Davutoglu said efforts were underway to secure the release of the Turks still in captivity.

"The critical process continues," he said. "Our prayers and our efforts will go on for the rest of them and, God willing, we will share such good news about them too as soon as possible."

The militants' takeover of Mosul was the opening act of a bold offensive that has brought much of northern and western Iraq under their control. The assault has eased in recent days since encountering stiffer resistance in Shiite majority areas.

The rapid pace of the advance took the Iraqi government and the international community by surprise, as the country's military melted away in the face of the onslaught.

It also left 46 Indian nurses stranded at a hospital in the militant-held northern city of Tikrit. The nurses are safe but are being forced to go to a new area controlled by the militants, according to Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman Syed Akbaruddin.

He also said 40 Indian construction workers abducted two



AHMED AL-HUSSEINI/AP

**Iraqi security forces celebrate Wednesday after clashes with followers of Shiite cleric Mahmoud al-Sarkhi in front of his home in the Shiite holy city of Karbala, 50 miles south of Baghdad.**

weeks ago near Mosul were still being held but were unharmed.

The militant group's gains in Iraq add to the vast territory it already controls across the border in northern and eastern Syria. The fighters have pressed their offensive against pockets of rival rebel fighters still holding out against them in eastern Deir el-Zour province, which borders Iraq.

On Thursday, the militants barreled through towns and villages along the Euphrates River as rebel factions affiliated with tribes in the area gave up the fight.

Activists said the jihadi group is now in almost full control of a corridor stretching from the Syrian border town of Boukamal to the government-controlled provincial capital of Deir el-Zour to the northwest.

The moves consolidate the territory held by the group, which has shortened its name to the Islamic State.

Led by an ambitious Iraqi

militant known as Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the group this week unilaterally declared the establishment of an Islamic state, or caliphate, in the lands it controls. It also proclaimed al-Baghdadi the head of its new, self-styled state governed by Shariah law and demanded that all Muslims pledge allegiance to him.

The majority of significant Syrian rebel groups that have been fighting to overthrow President Bashar Assad have rejected al-Baghdadi's declaration. The rebel groups, including the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front, have battled the Sunni extremist group since the beginning of the year. Nearly 7,000 people, mostly fighters, have died in the clashes.

However, the Nusra Front appears to be losing a war-within-a-war in Syria as fighters allied with powerful tribes in eastern Syria defect to al-Baghdadi's group.

On Thursday, activists posted a video showing a man in the town

of Shehel, a Nusra Front stronghold, reading a statement, saying, "We have decided to declare our allegiance to the Islamic State and the Caliph of the Muslims, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi."

Another video showed what appeared to be fighters in nearby Ishara saying they were ending their battle against al-Baghdadi's group.

"The clans of the city of Ishara, and the villages around it ... and all of the factions in these areas ... announce before God that they will cease fighting with the Islamic State," a man says, reading a statement in a courtyard with several other tribal elders. The videos appeared to be genuine and matched Associated Press reporting from the area.

The Deir el-Zour Coordination Committees, a collective of activists in the area, confirmed that militants had entered the town of Mayadeen and Ishara after other rebel fighters withdrew.

## Buddhist-Muslim violence in Myanmar leaves 2 dead

The Associated Press

YANGON, Myanmar — Buddhist mobs on motorbikes drove through Myanmar's historic city of Mandalay in a second night of attacks on minority Muslims that left two people dead and 14 injured and raised fears of wider violence, officials said Thursday.

In response to the violence, authorities imposed a p.m. to 5-a.m. curfew, which was announced by cars mounted with loudspeakers cruising the tense city, according to residents contacted by phone.

The dead included a Muslim man, who residents said was on his way to a mosque before dawn Thursday when he was attacked

by the mob and left dead in the street. The second victim was a Buddhist man, whose cause of death was under investigation, a police officer said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media.

"More than 100 motorbikes drove through the city (Wednesday) night throwing stones at mosques and shouting abuses and singing the national anthem to taunt the Muslim people," said Win Mya Mya, a Muslim resident and senior member of the main opposition party, the National League for Democracy.

He and others blamed police for failing to control the Buddhist mobs.

Mandalay region chief minister Ye Myint told media that four people were arrested. He did not reveal the identities or the religions of the victims or of those detained for fear it might inflame the situation.

Myanmar, a predominantly Buddhist nation, has been grappling with violence since 2012 that has left up to 280 people dead and another 140,000 homeless, most of them Muslims attacked by Buddhist extremists. Most of the violence has taken place in western Rakhine state.

The government has faced international criticism for failing to act strongly to stop the violence, which in Rakhine state reported-

ly occurred in several cases as security forces looked on. So far, the government has not commented on the Mandalay attacks.

The latest outbreak that started Tuesday night was a first in Mandalay, in central Myanmar, the second-largest city and an important economic hub and center of Buddhist culture and learning where Muslims and Buddhists have traditionally lived peacefully together.

In a radio address Thursday, President Thein Sein raised the country's need for stability as it transitions to democracy from a half-century of military rule — but did not mention Mandalay specifically.

## NATION



PHOTOS BY BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Dashawn Martin, center, a member of the dance troupe W.A.F.F.L.E. — which stands for We Are Family For Life Entertainment — performs on a subway in New York.

# NYPD to subway acrobats: Sit down

BY JENNIFER PELTZ AND TOM HAYS

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The underground acrobats who flip, somersault and pole-dance among New York City subway riders as trains roll are drawing a new audience — police officers.

The New York Police Department is cracking down on the subway showmen who use the tight quarters of the nation's busiest transit system as moving stages for impromptu — and illegal — pass-the-hat performances. More than 240 people have been arrested on misdemeanors related to acrobatics so far this year, compared with fewer than 40 at this time a year ago.

Police Commissioner William Bratton acknowledged he is targeting subway acrobats as part of his embrace of the “broken windows” theory of policing — that low-grade lawlessness can cultivate a greater sense of disorder and embolden more dangerous offenders.

“Is it a significant crime? Certainly not,” Bratton said recently. The question is, he said, “Does it have the potential both for creating a level of fear as well as a level of risk that you want to deal with?”

The subway acrobats say they’re just out to entertain, make a living and put a little communal levity in New York’s no-eye-contact commuting.

“We all, as New Yorkers, get these force fields around us. We just try to go inside the train and change the vibe,” said a performer named Besnkheru, who, because of the crackdown, spoke on the condition that his full name not be used.

Hopping on and off trains one recent afternoon, Besnkheru sang to amplified recordings ranging from Michael Jackson to Latin jazz while his performance partner, Domingo, danced, clowned and used the car’s bars and poles like playground equipment. Sometimes, he dangled upside down with his head within a foot or two of a rider’s face.

The pair got some glares but many smiles — some from passengers who initially seemed determined not to look — and several dollars.

“It’s such a part of New York culture,” said rider Joli Tribuzio, an actress.



Above: Andrew Sanders, leader of W.A.F.F.L.E. speaks during an interview while acrobatic dancers work on routines in Union Square, New York.

Below: Marc Mack, 8, performs on a subway in New York.



**‘We’re not just knuckleheads. ... We’re actually about something. There’s no reason for being locked up for doing what you love.’**

Andrew “Goofy” Saunders

But other passengers resent becoming a captive audience for acrobats and break-dancers in a cramped subway car.

“I don’t like all that action right in front of my face,” rider Kesia Hudson said.

Police believe most riders agree with Hudson. And though no injuries have been reported, they also insist the showmanship is a safety issue.

“If the dancers make a mistake, someone could get hurt,” said Chief Joseph Fox, head of the NYPD’s Transit Bureau. “The dancers themselves could get hurt.”

Police have responded by studying passenger complaints to determine when and where to put plainclothes officers on trains to nab acrobats.

The arrests are usually uneventful but can turn nasty. An acrobat who was being arrested spit on one officer and tried to bite another.

“No matter how you look at it, it’s dangerous,” Fox said. “It’s dangerous for us, too.”

Two decades ago during Bratton’s previous stint as commissioner, his “broken windows” crackdowns targeted public drinking, panhandling and most notably the squeegee men who sprang out at intersections to wash the windshields.

This time, the department has targeted illegal motorcycles, graffiti — and the acrobats.

Andrew “Goofy” Saunders and some friends started doing routines on trains in 2007, hoping to make \$10 to enter a dance competition. Seven years later, the group — W.A.F.F.L.E., for We Are Family For Life Entertainment — has a shoe-brand sponsor and has been booked for music videos, parties, even a wedding.

“We’re not just knuckleheads. ... We’re actually about something,” said Saunders, 20.

The roughly 12-person troupe has largely stopped performing on subways because of the police attention. Members now hope to line up a public space to flip with permission.

“There’s no reason for being locked up for doing what you love,” Saunders said.

## NATION

# Fat camp for dogs?

Fitness programs offer pudgy pets 'pawlates,' 'doga' to slim down

By SUE MANNING  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — It's not just a people problem: Growing rates of obesity in pets have led to the emergence of fat farms offering "pawlates," "doga" and "Barko Polo," doggie versions of Pilates, yoga and Marco Polo to help slim down man's best friend.

In the U.S., 53 percent of dogs are overweight or obese, up from 45 percent four years ago. In cats, the figure is almost 58 percent, said Dr. Ernie Ward, a veterinarian and founder of the Association of Pet Obesity Prevention in Calabash, N.C. Overweight pets can suffer diabetes, joint problems, heart disease and decreased life expectancy, just like obese people, he said.

Most luxury pet hotels and spas nationwide will customize a fitness program for a pudgy dog or cat, but only a few facilities have fat camps for large groups.

For golden retriever Ceili, it was easy to fatten up when living with a boy who pushed tasty morsels over the edge of his high chair. The extra weight led Eileen Bowers, of Bedminster, N.J., to sign up the more than 100-pound pooch for a five-day fitness camp last month at Morris Animal Inn.

**53**  
The percentage of dogs that are overweight or obese in the U.S. up from 45 percent four years ago

Besides the "pawlates," the camp was filled with swimming, nature hikes, treadmill trots, facials, massages and healthy treats like organic granola, string beans and carrots. It was designed to give Ceili and 40 other dogs a head start on a healthier life, said Debora Montgomery, the New Jersey facility's spokeswoman.

Wonder how you get a dog to do a downward dog? You wouldn't even recognize that yoga pose in the canine version. "Doga" and "pawlates" are a lot alike — both are about stretching while building strength, balance and flexibility. In "doga," stretches are close to the ground, while "pawlates" uses higher balance equipment like large exercise balls, Montgomery said.

The "Barko Polo" pool game varies from its human inspiration: A staffer will shout "barko" and whichever dog-paddling pooch yelps first gets a toy.

In all activities, "the dogs work for their meals. We praise and make the sessions fun and interactive," Montgomery said.

After the cardio come the doggie facials: a cleansing massage that wipes away organic food crumbs and exercise-induced slobber.

Bowers started sending her dog to the Morris facility months ago when Ceili hit 126 pounds. Usually, female golden retrievers weigh between 55 and 70 pounds, Montgomery said. Ceili got down to 118 but went to camp to lose more.

Extra treats are a culprit in canine obesity rates, besides a lack of exercise, Ward said. More than 80 percent of owners give dogs two or more snacks a day.

He compared the rising problem to the same trend in kids. "Children and cats and dogs don't feed themselves," Ward said. "We treat our pets like children."



PHOTOS BY MEL EVANS/AP

Golden retriever Ceili, right, stands in a small pool with a friend in the play area for dogs at the Morris Animal Inn in Morristown, N.J.

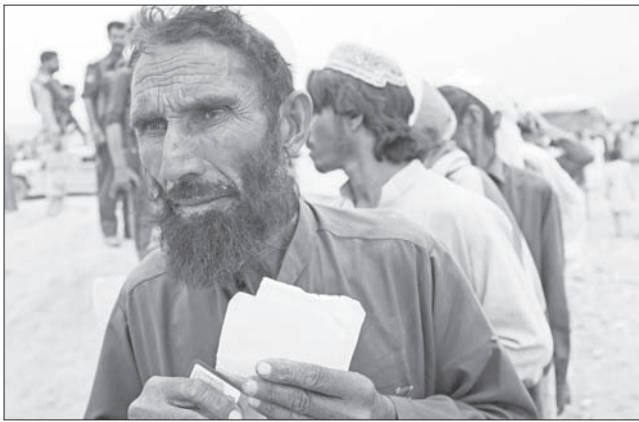


Above: Kelli Quinones walks Ceili on a treadmill for dogs at the Morris Animal Inn. Overweight Ceili weighs 126 pounds.

Right: Ceili plays a game of "Barko Polo."



## MILITARY



KEVIN SIEFF/The Washington Post

Refugees from Pakistan wait in line for food and shelter in Khost province, Afghanistan, on Wednesday.

## Pakistanis displaced by offensive end up on Afghan side of border

By KEVIN SIEFF  
The Washington Post

KHOST, Afghanistan — Two weeks ago, a Pakistani soldier came to Mir Abat Khan's home in North Waziristan and issued a stark threat: If you don't leave your home, we will kill you.

The Pakistani military was about to begin an offensive in the region targeting the Taliban, and Khan's home was in the path of destruction. That's how he ended up here — in a growing refugee camp in Afghanistan where he is waiting in line for a plastic tent and flour provided by the United Nations.

Afghanistan is battling its own insurgency and is unaccustomed to this daily influx of refugees. The United Nations estimates that there are more than 75,000 in Khost province alone, living in a scrubby open field that is a two-day walk from their village across the border in Pakistan.

Khan brought 12 family members on the trek. They left everything behind: their belongings, their food, two donkeys, three cows, 10 chickens.

"We are here with nothing," he said, "and we have no idea how long we will stay."

The Pakistani military operation in North Waziristan, aimed at clearing a longtime Taliban sanctuary, began with airstrikes. Then came what army commanders called a "house-to-house" search for terrorists. The offensive has displaced about a half-million people.

As more of them cross into Afghanistan, officials here have grown concerned about their ability to provide for those refugees in a part of the country plagued by poverty and security problems. When they first arrived, many of the displaced Pakistanis had no shelter from the blistering sun and very little to eat.

"We are just trying to survive," said Omar Khan Wazir, another refugee.

As the Pakistani military continues its offensive, it is likely that Afghanistan is serving as sanctuary to more than just civilian refugees. For years, Pakistani militants have sought refuge in Afghanistan — much as the Afghan Taliban does in Pakistan.

"They've been able to find sanctuary on this side of the border. They are not targeted by our security forces, because they are not our enemy," one former Afghan official said.

Last month, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif urged Afghan President Hamid Karzai to crack down on militants crossing into Afghanistan. On Monday, top Pakistani military officials reiterated that demand.

At the refugee camp in Matun district in Khost, there have been no signs of armed men among the displaced. The refugees opted to come here, rather than another Pakistani city, because of an ethnic connection: The people on both sides of the border are Pashtuns, so they speak the same language and share a culture. The border is a construct that many of them refuse to accept.

It's unclear how long the refugees will remain in Afghanistan. Some suggested their anger at the Pakistani government might keep them here for many months.

"I don't want to go back soon," Khan said. "We've suffered so much in these last weeks."

## Subcontractor sued in dispute on war zone pay

By CHARLES D. WILSON  
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Federal investigators are examining whether a military subcontractor underpaid scores of medical workers in Afghanistan, pocketing federal funds that the government intended the company use to pay its employees.

A lawsuit brought in Indiana last week by Laura Hawkins, of Bloomington, claims Onsite Occupational Health and Safety Inc. underpaid her for the 84-hour weeks she routinely worked. Twenty other former employees have since joined the lawsuit, which has been moved to federal court. The complaint seeks class action status.

OHS, which is based in Princeton, Ind., denies the allegations, which could involve more than \$7 million in dispute. It says Hawkins was paid appropriately and the claims have no basis.

Alex Bronstein-Moffly, a spokesman for the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, told The Associated Press an investigation is being conducted but declined to elaborate.

The complaint claims that OHS cheated its employees and the government by keeping money that should have been paid out for overtime.

OHS, a subcontractor for another company that is a primary contractor for the Army, provides medical services to U.S. troops in Afghanistan. Hawkins, a radiologic technician, worked for OHS at a site in Afghanistan.

The lawsuit claims Hawkins and other OHS employees were routinely required to work 84 hours a week or more without being paid at an overtime rate for work over 40 hours. The complaint maintains that OHS was obligated under terms of its contracts with the government and

its primary contractor to pay overtime. The lawsuit says OHS refused to release those documents, but that the company is required to abide by federal and Indiana wage laws.

"By retaining monies which the U.S. government intended for payment of wages to OHS employees, OHS is unjustly and wrongfully enriching itself," the lawsuit says.

Hawkins' complaint does not specify an amount of damages. But in an affidavit filed with the U.S. District Court for southern Indiana, OHS Director of Human Capital Jeff Devine calculated the total overtime allegedly due to the company's 237 employees who would be covered if the complaint is found valid at more than \$7 million.

"Onsite believes she was paid properly and that it has not violated the law with regard to Ms. Hawkins or anyone else," Devine said in an email to the AP. In another email, Devine also called the claims "unfounded."

It isn't the first time such claims have surfaced in Afghanistan, though officials say OHS hasn't been investigated before. The Special Inspector General's office alerted Secretary of State John Kerry and other officials to claims of financial mistreatment of subcontractors and employees in June 2011.

The Special Inspector General's office is currently reviewing 23 active complaints involving nonpayment to subcontractors and employees, spokesman Philip J. LaVelle told the AP on Wednesday. LaVelle said the office receives about eight to 10 such complaints each month.

Since December 2013, about \$472,000 in contested payments has been made to subcontractors and employees following inquiries by the office, LaVelle said.

## Army: Bergdahl venturing out in public as part of recovery

By JUAN A. LOZANO  
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, who was a prisoner of war in Afghanistan for five years, has been allowed to venture off the Texas military base where he is receiving care as part of his "reintegration process" into society, a U.S. Army spokeswoman said Wednesday.

Bergdahl has been allowed to go, with supervision, to a grocery store, restaurants, shopping centers and a library as part of

the process of getting him comfortable with being out in public, Army spokeswoman Arwen Con-saul said.

Bergdahl, 28, has been receiving care at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio since returning to the United States on June 13. He initially was being treated at Brooke Army Medical Center at the fort but was shifted last week to outpatient care at the military base.

The Idaho native was freed by the Taliban on May 31 in a deal struck by the Obama adminis-

tration in which five senior Taliban officials were released from detention at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Bergdahl had disappeared from his post in Paktika province in eastern Afghanistan on June 30, 2009. Some former members of his unit have said that he left of his own accord.

He has not commented publicly on the circumstances of his disappearance, and the Army has made no charges against him. The Army has said it is investigating Bergdahl's disappearance and capture, but that investiga-

tors will not interview him until those helping him recover say it is all right to do so.

Bergdahl's "reintegration process" has slowly increased his exposure to social settings and groups of people, giving him "a little bit more every day," Con-saul said.

It began with going to facilities at Fort Sam Houston, including the commissary and the gym. It has since progressed to going into San Antonio and visiting various businesses. On those visits, Bergdahl is accompanied by members

of his reintegration team, including a psychologist.

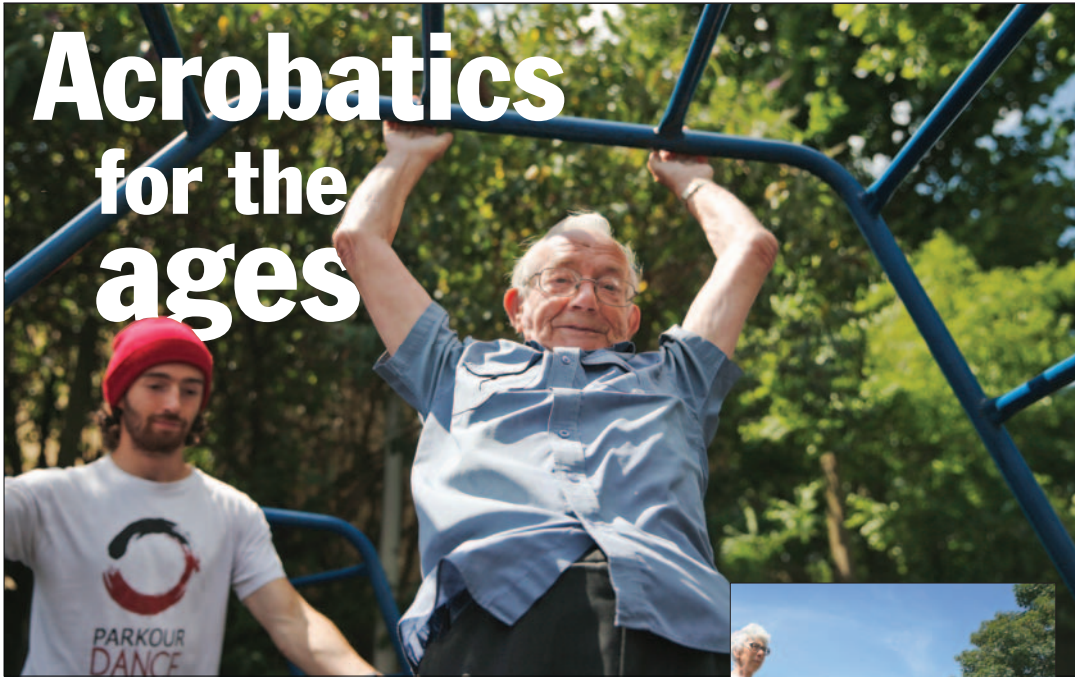
The process is about "getting [Bergdahl] comfortable with being out in public and interacting with large groups of people," Con-saul said.

It is unknown if Bergdahl's family has seen him since his return to the United States. Con-saul said because of a request by Bergdahl's family for privacy, the Army cannot comment on that.

No time has been set for when Bergdahl's reintegration process will finish, she said.

## WORLD

# Acrobatics for the ages



PHOTOS BY LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/AP

**Above:** George Jackson, 85, an army veteran and former boxer, swings on monkey bars as he participates at a parkour class for elderly people at a park in south London. Jackson is the oldest participant in the unique weekly class for people over 60. Parkour, a flashy discipline usually known for its acrobatic running, climbing and gravity-defying jumps, was invented in the 1980s in France. **Right:** Participants work on balance.



## Fitness class has seniors tackle modified version of parkour

BY MARIA CHENG  
The Associated Press

**LONDON** — On a recent morning in London, Lara Thomson practiced spinning on benches, swinging from metal bars and balancing off raised ledges — all elements of a daredevil discipline known as “parkour.”

What was unusual about the scene is that Thomson is 79 and all of her classmates are over 60.

They are members of a unique weekly class for seniors in a sport more commonly known for gravity-defying jumps than helping people with arthritis.

Invented in the 1980s in France, parkour is a sport usually favored by extremely nimble people who move freely through any terrain using their own strength and flexibility, often using urban environments such as benches, buildings and walls as a type of obstacle course. It's also known as free running.

The London parkour class of about a dozen students is taught by two instructors who have adapted the sport's main elements to a level that can be handled even by those over 60 who have replacement joints or other medical

conditions.

“I wondered whether it was a government plot to get rid of old people when I heard about the class,” Thomson joked.

She said she has balance problems and that the class helps her feel more confident about getting around. “Being able to get outside and do silly things like hugging trees is great,” she said, referring to a stretching exercise.

While most fitness classes aimed at seniors focus on calmer activities such as dance or yoga, experts say parkour is a reasonable, if unorthodox, option.

“When I first heard about this, I had a picture in my mind of elderly people jumping off of walls and I thought there was no way this could be appropriate,” said Bruce Paton, a physical therapist who works with the elderly at the Institute of Sport, Exercise and Health at University College London. He is not connected to the program. “But when you look at the things they’re doing, it’s actually quite gentle and could increase their strength and flexibility to help them with their daily activities.”

The parkour instructors said everyone who takes the class fills out a health form and they are particularly care-

ful to dissuade participants from doing too much; several students have artificial joints, arthritis or a pacemaker.

“Every single technique in parkour can be changed so that anyone can do it,” said Jade Shaw, artistic director of Parkour Dance, who teaches the class. For now, the classes are free and held at a Tibetan Buddhist center in South London.

“I think it’s very beneficial and I’m hoping we’ll soon have a lot more older people bouncing around the parks,” she said.

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## NATION

# Life, libertarians and the pursuit of market rule

## Campground hosts group seeking to change the system annually

BY BEN TERRIS  
The Washington Post

LANCASTER, N.H. — Like any good bonfire, the evening ritual at the Porcupine Freedom Festival deep in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, includes a drum circle, plumes of marijuana smoke, shared bottles of whiskey and spirited debate.

There are also guns. Lots of guns.

Colt .45s, Smith & Wessons, and Rugers hang on hips. A bearded man clings to an AK-47; a guy with a Mohawk has a shotgun with flowers coming out of the barrel strapped to his back. For this isn't your typical bacchanal in the woods. This is the libertarian version of Burning Man, where a kumbaya discussion around the campfire goes something like this:

"It's great to be around people who understand. I don't get how the left won't just admit that income tax is theft. Who cares if it's for a good cause? If I held you at gunpoint to pay for my mother's cancer treatment, wouldn't that still be theft?"

Once a year for the past 11 years, this campground in the northern part of the Granite State turns into a libertarian utopia. This year, roughly 2,000 people — mostly white men — have paid between \$45 and \$100 to experience for one week what life would be like without the onerous mechanisms of laws, if the market ruled to the exclusion of all else.

Want to wear a loincloth and sell moonshine, shop at an unregulated market that accepts Bitcoin and silver, or listen to a seminar called "How the Collapse of the

State is Inevitable"? Then this is the place for you.

It certainly is the place for Pete Eyre, a muscular guy with an enormous beard, standing off to the side of the fire. At one point he wanted to be a cop, interning at the St. Paul, Minn., police department, enforcing many of the rules people have come here to disregard.

He found the system too reactionary, he says, and now helps run an organization that films police misconduct. He shows off one of his many tattoos in the flickering light of the fire. It's an anarchist symbol tattoo covering an old American flag tat he got in his past life. "It's my journey," he says.

SEE LIBERTARIANS ON PAGE 17



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW CAVANAUGH/For The Washington Post

Below: Colby Keddington, of Hancock, Md., carries a Remington shotgun with artificial flowers in its barrel during the Porcupine Freedom Festival last week in Lancaster, N.H. Below: A banner hangs in the camping area of the festival.





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# NATION

## Libertarians: In search of utopia at NH Porcifest

FROM PAGE 16

Then someone taps him on the shoulder. There's a kid having a bad trip in the bathroom, and in this hectic, anti-hierarchical festival, Eyre is the closest thing to an authority figure around.

"I am God," a longhaired 20-something repeats to the people baby-sitting him in a bathroom hallway. "I am a perfect logical machine."

Two girls huffing nitrous oxide from a balloon and a guy holding a needle come by. The guy with the needle says he has a chemical mixture that if injected will lessen the effects of hallucinogens. "I have the solution right in my hands," he says. Eyre decides it's a bad idea to inject the longhaired guy with a mystery drug—even if it could work in theory—and says he won't allow it to happen.

"Can anyone refute that it will work?" the guy with the needle asks.

It might as well have been the slogan for the whole glorious effort of the Porcupine Freedom Festival.

Porcifest—as it's known here—is put on by the Free State Project, a group dedicated to recruiting at least 20,000 libertarians to move to New Hampshire. The idea—that a group of this size can make a difference in a state with a low population—came from an essay in 2001 by then-Yale doctoral student and current Dartmouth lecturer Jason Sorens. Thirteen years later, the FSP has had nearly 16,000 people sign a "statement of intent" to move. The plan is that

when 20,000 people sign the list, it will "trigger" a large migration. Somewhere in the neighborhood of 1,500 people have moved already.

This is a way to build a community. Even isolationists don't like to feel alone.

"In most places, if you try to go to a libertarian event, you're probably going to get three people," says Kamil Markowicz, an attendee from Indiana. "And one is going to be a tea party guy and the other a conspiracy theorist."

The ideological motivations, which Free Staters discuss over homemade mead and beers, are relatively easy to understand. The U.S. government suffers from low approval ratings, we have been fighting wars for years without a satisfying result in sight, and privacy is slipping away.

Why not just dissolve it all—or most of it—and live as individuals? In other words, live like the porcupine: Let your lifestyle not encroach on others, but if someone comes at you, don't hesitate to protect yourself with quills. Or your AR-15.

"If we concentrate together, we can affect change," says Carla Gericke, president of the Free State Project. But what exactly that change would be, who even knows? For some, it means living outside the system; for others, changing the system within it.

By most counts, more than 20 Free Staters have been elected to the state House of Representatives (about 47 of whom currently serve), with many others serv-



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW CAVANAUGH/For The Washington Post

Chelsea Henry, top, of Brighton, Mich., and Justin Holmes, of New Paltz, N.Y., practice yoga moves at the Porcupine Freedom Festival last week in Lancaster, N.H., a kind of libertarian utopia.

ing in municipal government. In 2012, state Rep. Cynthia Chase, a Democrat, called them "the single biggest threat the state is facing today."

It's certainly an overstatement, but the Free Staters have been active in the political arena. They have helped repeal New Hampshire's knife laws, blocked implementation of a national ID system in the state and helped aid jurors to acquit defendants not because they think they are innocent but because they believe the law at issue is unjust.

And just as Free Staters have started to trickle into politics, some more traditional types have found themselves drawn to Porcifest. Former senator Robert Smith is here trying to pick up votes for his campaign against Scott Brown in the Republican primary to be held in September, and Saul Anuzis, former chairman of the Michigan Republican Party, is here, despite drawing the ire of libertarians in 2007 when he said that Ron Paul should drop out of the presidential debates.

"We can't achieve anything by one method alone," says Mike Sylvia, a state representative and the 589th person to move to New Hampshire for the cause. By his count, the FSP has its eyes on about 47 people it might try to recruit to run in the coming years.

A lot of people at Porcifest are software engineers, Web developers, IT support team members and telecommunications workers. Their jobs are relatively mobile, and uprooting to rural New Hampshire isn't outside the realm of possibility.

And the best way to persuade people to move, well, that's Porcifest.

Consider Agora Valley, the unregulated market in the middle of the campground. At the entrance, a group sells silver that its members minted. Across from its stand, a food vendor (sans permit, sans safety inspection) sells hamburgers and hot dogs for Bitcoin, Dogecoin, precious metals, or if you must, dollars (or "Federal Reserve Notes"). Cellphone service is bad out in the woods, so sometimes people have to buy a sausage here, and walk down the hill, over by the Bitcoin ATM, where reception is better, so they can pay.

Just past the booth where a man sells make-your-own-firearms blueprints (his wife would rather him stick to his day job of running a cabinet-making magazine), there is a series of tents hosting seminars all day. A former Army officer named Bill Buppert is talking about how "we shouldn't think of secession as a four-letter word."

At an adjacent tent, a guy dis-

cusses the benefits of a paleo diet. If you stay healthy enough, he says, perhaps you can live long enough to make it to the "singularity" where you can live forever by tapping into artificial intelligence. Eat like a caveman, he says, so you can live long enough to become a robot.

"The thing about a lot of libertarians," James O'Beirne, a software engineer living in New York City, says coming out of the paleo seminar, "is that we are often analytical to an irrational extent."

There's a geodesic dome nicknamed the "orgy tent," but the biggest party at Porcifest takes place near the end of the week-long gathering. It's Buzz's Big Gay Dance Party, put on by Buzz Webb, 47, who goes by the "Duchess of Dykedom," wears combat boots and has close-cropped, dyed-white hair.

It's a free society here unless you break the rules. There are no cops, unless you get on the wrong side of the Church of the Sword. The griddles may be unregulated, but the eggs are USDA-approved.

A true libertarian utopia will always remain a hypothetical, even on a small scale. But perhaps for the true believers, it's better that way. For as long as it remains the mystery solution for our country's ills, who can ever refute that it would work?



Pete Eyre once wanted to be a police officer, but found the system too "reactionary" and now helps run CopBlock.org, which films police misdoings.

### "ESCAPE TO THE HEART OF TOKYO!"

July							August							September						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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THE NEW SANNO

## WORLD

# Flap over follicles

## Tests show supposed 'Bigfoot' hair samples mostly from bears, wolves

By MARIA CHENG  
The Associated Press

LONDON — DNA testing is taking a bite out of the Bigfoot legend. After scientists analyzed more than 30 hair samples reportedly left behind by Bigfoot and similar mythical beasts like the Himalayan Yeti, they found all of them came from more mundane creatures such as bears, wolves, cows and raccoons.

In 2012, researchers at Oxford University and the Lausanne Museum of Zoology issued an open call asking museums, scientists and Bigfoot aficionados to share any samples they thought were from the legendary ape-like creatures.

"I thought there was about a

**'Every mammal in the forest leaves hair and poop behind and that's what we've found. Just not the big guy himself.'**

**Todd Disotell**  
professor of anthropology, New York University

5 percent chance of finding a sample from a Neanderthal or [a Yeti]," said Bryan Sykes, of Oxford University, who led the research, the first peer-reviewed study of Bigfoot, Yeti and other "anomalous primates." The study was published online Wednesday in the journal *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.

Sykes and colleagues tested 36

hair samples from Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Russia and the U.S. using DNA sequencing and all of them matched DNA from known animals. Most were from bears, but there were also hairs from a Malaysian tapir, horses, porcupine, deer, sheep and a human.

While Sykes said they didn't find any proof of Bigfoot-related

creatures, he acknowledged their paper doesn't prove they don't exist.

"The fact that none of these samples turned out to be [a Yeti] doesn't mean the next one won't," he said.

The scientists did find two samples from ancient polar bears in the Himalayas, who are not known to live there. That suggests there could be a new or hybrid bear species out there, Sykes said.

Others said proving that Bigfoot is real requires significantly more than a mere hair sample.

"I would want visual or physical proof, like a body part, on top of the DNA evidence," said Todd Disotell, a professor of anthropology at New York University.

He warned Bigfoot enthusiasts not to make assumptions when they find weird things in the forest. "Every mammal in the forest leaves hair and poop behind and that's what we've found," he said. "Just not the big guy himself."

Some experts said that if Bigfoot existed, there would be a lot more to find than just a few errant hairs.

"Those who believe in the Yeti, Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster need basic instruction in sex," said Stuart Pimm, an ecologist at Duke University, in an email. "Each Yeti has two parents, four grandparents and so on," he said. "There should have been herds of [Yetis]," he wrote. "Where were they hiding?"



AP photos

Oxford University genetics professor Bryan Sykes shows a prepared DNA sample taken from hair from a Himalayan animal. Inset: In 2008, a media conference was held in Palo Alto, Calif., announcing the claim that a deceased bigfoot or sasquatch creature has been found in Georgia.

STARS AND STRIPES.  
*celebrates*  
Independence Day  
July 4, 2014



## FAITH



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

A demonstrator dressed as the Bible stands outside the Supreme Court in Washington on Monday, awaiting the court's decision on the Hobby Lobby case. The Supreme Court said corporations can hold religious objections that allow them to opt out of the new health law requirement that they cover contraceptives for women.

# Ruling exposes sharp divide among faith groups

By MICHELLE BOORSTEIN  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — U.S. faith groups were starkly divided in their reaction to the Supreme Court's decision affirming the religious rights of corporations, with some seeing a narrow decision protecting the religious liberty of business owners and others seeing a profane intrusion into the beliefs of employees.

Traditional Christians and Jews in particular celebrated Monday's decision, which comes at a time when many feel conservative religious beliefs — especially around sexuality and marriage — are slipping in official status.

"Justice has prevailed," the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said in a statement. "We welcome the Supreme Court's decision to recognize that Americans can continue to follow their faith when they run a family business. ... Now is the time to redouble our efforts to build a culture that fully respects religious freedom."

"Hallelujah! #HobbyLobby" tweeted Russell Moore, leader of the Southern Baptist Convention's public address arm.

The Rev. Harry Knox, president of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, said business owners who feel their religious beliefs "are more important" than their female employees practice "nothing short of spiritual harassment."

"When it comes to matters of personal health, real religious liberty respects the discernment process each person enters into guided by their own faith values," Knox said.

The court's ruling was over the question of whether the Affordable Care Act violates the law by requiring for-profit corporations — including those owned by people

**'No matter what they did the country will be unhappy.'**

Doug Laycock  
University of Virginia law professor

with religious objections — to provide employees no-cost contraception.

Most of the pending legal challenges to the health care mandate are in the nonprofit sector, to where attention quickly shifted Monday.

Dozens of faith-based schools, Catholic dioceses and religious charities are in court against the White House, also objecting to offering coverage.

Unlike with religious business owners, the White House has offered faith-based nonprofits the option of identifying themselves as conscientious objectors, thus putting the burden of providing contraception on their insurance companies.

But some nonprofits said that still entangled them in a system they view as immoral and akin to killing.

The question of what will happen to these many nonprofit cases is unfolding at the federal appeals court level.

Some groups that have worked closely with the White House urged the president to seek a compromise for the nonprofit standoff.

"We hope that, in light of the court's ruling, the Obama administration will now look to develop a new approach that will also allow the many pending lawsuits over religious liberty and the health care mandate to be settled," said a statement from the Orthodox Union, the largest advocacy group for Orthodox Jews.

Some faith groups saw a dangerous, broadly worded decision.

They pointed to the dissent written by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

What about "employers with religiously grounded objections to blood transfusions (Jehovah's Witnesses); antidepressants (Scientologists); medications derived from pigs, including anesthesia, intravenous fluids, and pills coated with gelatin (certain Muslims, Jews, and Hindus); and vaccinations[?]" . . . Not much help there for the lower courts bound by today's decision," she wrote.

"The First Amendment is at its best when it is used to protect the rights of minorities from the whims of the powerful. Today's decision, which gives the powerful the right to force their religious beliefs on those around them, is a far cry from the best traditions of religious freedom," wrote the Rev. Welton Gaddy, leader of the Interfaith Alliance.

Doug Laycock, a University of Virginia law professor who wrote a brief to the court supporting Hobby Lobby, said the idea of floodgates opening "is a scare tactic."

He saw the ruling as narrow and the case itself as "unusual," not one that would be applied to the big hot-button issues such as whether employers who reject same-sex marriage could claim religion in order to discriminate against gay customers, for example.

In fact, he thought the ruling threw a bone to both sides in a country in a culture war.

"No matter what they did the country will be unhappy," he said.

But the ruling showed "religious liberties can be protected, and we can have contraception and that may calm the waters," he said. "There is a way for both sides to live together and live according to their beliefs, and the court found it here."

It wasn't immediately clear how the ruling would be applied to the many pending nonprofit cases, which involve prominent religious organizations that include the University of Notre Dame and Wheaton College.

The ruling, in criticizing the government, noted that the White House hadn't offered as big an exemption to companies as it did to nonprofits, who can say they have an objection and trigger insurers to pay.

Some said that seemed to show the court found the exemption for nonprofits sufficient, while others said the basic argument for both groups is the same: Offering contraception violates some people's conscience.

Some faith-based groups sought a middle ground.

Among them was the progressive Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good, which said in a statement that the decision "upholds the strong American tradition of protecting the religious liberty of the citizens of the United States."

"That being said, we remain committed to seeing the implementation of health care reform throughout the nation. We too believe that access to quality health care is a God-given right for all Americans."



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Man dies after refusing to spit out crack

**TX** BEAUMONT — Police said a driver in a south-east Texas traffic stop died after allegedly swallowing crack cocaine and refusing to spit it out.

Beaumont police said the man died early Wednesday. The name of the 32-year-old Beaumont man wasn't immediately released. An autopsy has been ordered.

Police on Tuesday night conducted a traffic stop and approached a car carrying four people. Officers saw a passenger drop something that turned out to be a crack cocaine pipe. Officers then noticed the driver had something in his mouth and refused to spit it out.

A struggle ensued and the man swallowed which police say appeared to be crack cocaine.

The driver was transported to a hospital but he refused treatment, then had a seizure and died as medical personnel tried to save him.

## 4,000 arrive for forest counterculture fest

**UT** UINTA NATIONAL FOREST — About 4,000 members of a counterculture group known as the Rainbow Family have poured into the woods about 60 miles east of Salt Lake City. The annual festival culminates in a four-day celebration that began Tuesday.

The group counts no leaders or official members. Last year, it set up camp in a part of Montana national forest.

Members began arriving in the forest in recent weeks, flooding neighboring Heber City, where residents question how much the gathering will cost their town.

Authorities said two participants at the celebration apparently died in their sleep. They also said a New Mexico woman at the camp site last week stabbed a participant, seriously injuring him.

About 10,000 people are expected to arrive by Friday, the height of the celebration.

## Referee punched at soccer match dies

**MI** DETROIT — A man who was punched in the head over the weekend while refereeing an adult-league soccer match in suburban Detroit died Tuesday, authorities said.

John Bieniewicz, 44, who was attacked Sunday at a park in Livonia, died at Detroit Receiving Hospital, said hospital spokesman Alton Gunn, Livonia police and the man's longtime friend, Jim Acho.

Police Lt. Tom Goralski said Baseel Abdul-Amir Saad, 36, of Dearborn, punched Bieniewicz in the head after the referee indicated he planned to eject the man from the game. He was arraigned Monday on a charge of assault with intent to do great bodily harm. The Wayne County prosecutor's office said the charges would be reviewed and possibly amended when it had the necessary documentation.

## THE CENSUS

# \$400K

The sale price for a small southwestern South Dakota town that went on the market last week. The unincorporated hamlet is owned by businessman Lance Benson, who still lives there with his wife. He said the town used to have a population of 40 people decades ago, as well as a post office, a few houses and a grocery store. Now, the town is just a bar, workshop, three trailers and a house. Benson has owned it since 1998.



DAWN J. SAGERT, SIOUX CITY (IOWA) JOURNAL/AP

## Ham on the lam

A man tries to catch a piglet belonging to Derek Heeren, of Akron, after it jumped from its kennel in the bed of a pickup truck while traveling north, causing traffic to slow along Highway 29 near the Riverside Drive exit in Sioux City, Iowa, on Tuesday. The pig was eventually caught, and traffic resumed to normal without incident.

## Sailors rescue woman from burning home

**VA** NEWPORT NEWS — A Newport News woman was rescued out of her home by a pair of Navy sailors Tuesday morning, a Newport News Fire Department spokesman and Navy officials said.

Local dispatchers received initial reports of a house fire just after 11:20 a.m., Newport News Fire Department spokesman Stephen Pincus said.

Before local firefighters arrived, two sailors from the USS Abraham Lincoln on their lunch break saw smoke coming from the area and found that the porch of the home was on fire, Pincus said.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 2nd Class Devon Bishop and Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 3rd Class Jessica Jusino entered through a side door, pushed past a freezer that was blocking a bolted door, and found the woman screaming, thinking she was being burglarized, according to a news release from USS Abraham Lincoln officials.

"After we told her that her

house was on fire and that we were there to help, we helped her out of the house through the back door," Bishop said in the news release. "Jessica and I then grabbed her walker and took her to the backyard."

Firefighters arrived shortly afterward and declared the fire under control in about 10 minutes.

## Lawsuit: Inmate tried to buy influence

**CT** NEW HAVEN — A former driver for an imprisoned hedge-fund founder says he was asked to help funnel money from his former boss to other inmates at a federal prison in Massachusetts.

The allegations are contained in a lawsuit filed June 20 by the driver, Peter Malaszuk, against Raj Rajaratnam in U.S. District Court.

Rajaratnam, founder of the Galleon Group, is serving an 11-year sentence for insider trading at a minimum-security facility in Ayer, Mass.

Malaszuk alleges Rajaratnam gave him names and contact information for the family members of inmates who were to receive money. He said the cash was meant to secure special treatment in prison for Rajaratnam.

Terence Lynan, Rajaratnam's attorney, said the allegations are false and part of an effort to extort money.

## Gnanny arrested after toddler drinks meth tea

**CA** IDYLLWILD — Authorities in Southern California said a 51-year-old woman was arrested after her 2-year-old granddaughter drank tea with methamphetamine in it.

A Riverside County sheriff's statement said the toddler's mother called authorities Monday saying the child had not slept and was talking rapidly, scratching and couldn't sit still.

At a hospital, it was determined she had meth in her system.

Investigators said the grandmother, Cynthia Watson, made a cup of tea the night before and put meth in it "to get herself high." The girl apparently drank it when the cup was unattended.

Watson, who was visiting from Oregon, was held on suspicion of child endangerment on \$35,000 bail.

The toddler is expected to make a full recovery.

## Man gets prison for bomb-making materials

**ID** BOISE — A Boise man who pleaded guilty to having bomb-making materials in the crawlspace of his house has been sentenced to 13 to 25 years in prison.

Joshua Finch, 33, told investigators he believed an electromagnetic pulse was going to knock out all of the electronics in the country and he was preparing for the anarchy he believed would follow. He had explosives, pipes and timing devices under his house, along with an assault rifle, prosecutors said.

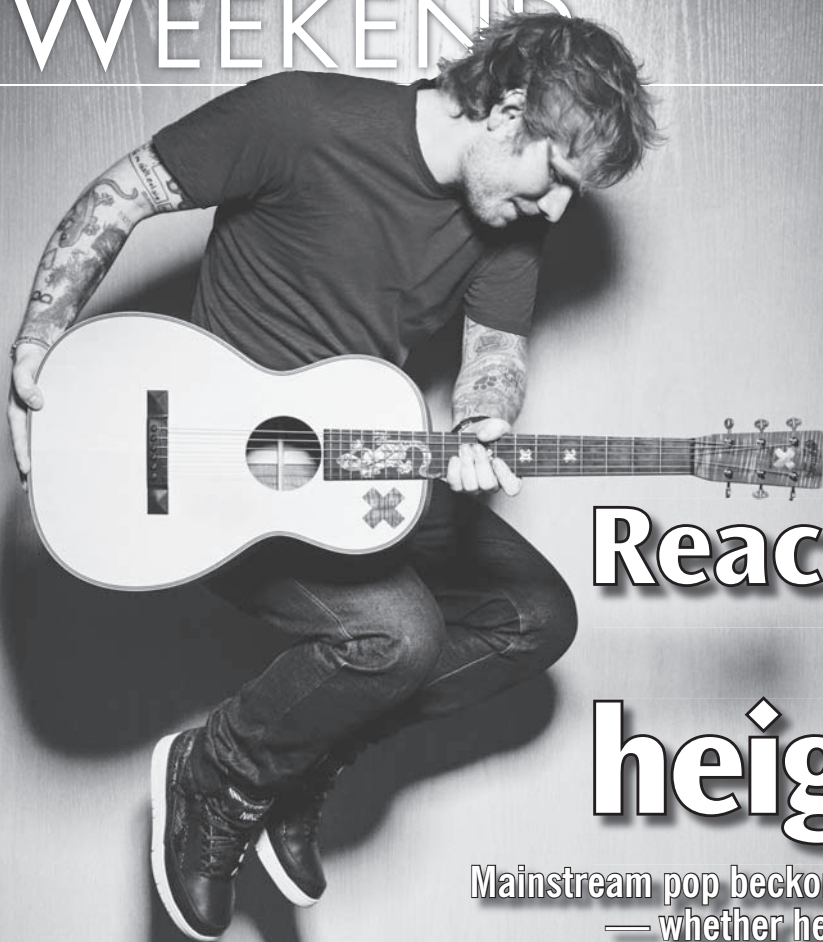
"I know all this looks really bad, but I wasn't trying to hurt anyone," Finch told District Judge Thomas Neville on Monday.

Neville countered that having more than 100 pounds of explosives in a crawl space underneath his children's bedrooms wasn't consistent with that claim.

"This was not about protecting your family, Mr. Finch," Neville said. "You were endangering your family by the actions you took."

From wire reports

## WEEKEND



# Reaching new heights

Mainstream pop beckons Ed Sheeran  
— whether he likes it or not

Page 37

## Veg out

Nuremberg eatery  
a treat for vegans

After Hours, Page 29



## Like home

Okinawa's Exit Cafe  
uses military housing

After Hours, Page 14



# WEEKEND: GADGETS & CHARTS



MARK RANDALL, SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL/MCT

Jack Miller shows off his See2pee toilet light in the bathroom of House of Zen Dai, a boutique in Delray Beach, Fla.

## Light up a bowl legally with invention See2pee

By MIRIAM VALVERDE  
Sun Sentinel

Jack Miller caught a glimpse of himself in the mirror a few years ago, wearing a blue LED necklace. Naturally, he thought: "This should be in my toilet."

Not because he didn't like it, but because the 62-year-old bathroom designer thought that lighting up the toilet bowl would make those nighttime trips a little easier. Or, as he puts it now, the light would "give men a clear target and women a safe landing."

Before long, Miller had a prototype for "See2pee," a battery-operated light that hooks to the toilet bowl and illuminates when someone walks within 8 feet.

The Boynton Beach, Fla., resident wants to produce 5,000 units of See2pee and has turned to a crowdfunding platform, indiegogo.com, to raise some of the money he needs.

The site serves as a tool for entrepreneurs like Miller to raise money from friends and strangers. Miller's goal is to raise at least

\$33,333. He said it will cost him about \$70,000 to manufacture the initial 5,000 units in China, and an investor has agreed to cover any amount he needs beyond \$33,333, Miller said.

"No one likes to turn bright lights on at night," he said. "It's great for children, too. Sometimes they wet the bed because they're afraid to get up and go in the dark. This solves that problem."

Although the light stays on for only 30 seconds, a slight movement will activate it again, Miller said. And people can choose a color to suit their business by: blue or green.

There are other products out there similar to See2pee, but some turn on only when the toilet lid is up, Miller said. He is awaiting a response to the patent application he submitted about two years ago. Miller eventually plans to sell his gadget on his website, see2pee.com, for about \$30.

The campaign's last day is July 20.

Check out the campaign's progress at [www.indiegogo.com/projects/see2pee-2](http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/see2pee-2)

**ON THE COVER:** Singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran is taking the music world by storm, an unusual position for an acoustic guitar balladeer.

Courtesy of Atlantic Records

## GADGET WATCH

### Grill tool sounds alert when food needs attention

By GREGG ELLMAN

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

With grilling season in full swing, the Oregon Scientific Grill-Right Bluetooth BBQ Thermometer is as timely a gadget as I can write about.

If you're anything like me, you love to grill. If you're a lot like me, you often bring in the food only to return it to the grill for a few additional minutes.

If we all we want to do that less, we should invest in this thermometer.

The device connects a probe to whatever you might be cooking and displays the temperature on the device's 3.25-inch display, as well as sending the information to your iOS or Android device. This is done with a Bluetooth connection and the free Grill Right app (iTunes and Google play) on your smartphone.

The pre-set entree temperature alerts (eight choices) included all the options I needed. Go to the Meat Profile mode and choose what's for dinner. Among the eight choices are chicken, fish, hamburgers and beef.

It also can be programmed for a specific length of time or an exact temperature before it will send an alert.

You can use two probes at once, but if you use only one, make sure it's in the top socket on the right side of the display. Then just put the other end to the closest part of the center of whatever you are cooking.

It's important to know that the Grill-Right is not fireproof. But the 7-inch metal probes connecting it to the meat are, with a temperature range of 32 degrees to 572 degrees. The device is made of a heat-resistant material and has a 39-inch fire safe cable to connect the two.

The Grill-Right measures 3.54-by-3.54-by-1.20 inches and works off a pair of AA batteries (included) and includes one probe. Extras can be purchased.

Connecting it to your smartphone is simple. Just make the Bluetooth connection, start the app and you're all set. You also can use the Grill-Right as a standalone device.

Online: [oregonscientific.com](http://oregonscientific.com), \$55.50

Logitech's Bluetooth audio adapter keeps your other electronic gadgets from becoming dust collectors. In seconds, it can transform an old plug-only speaker into an

up-to-date Bluetooth speaker.

The setup is simple; pair up the device with your smartphone, tablet or whatever Bluetooth source your audio will come from, then plug in the included cable to connect the speaker.

The cable has RCA and 3.5mm cables, which can be run in either direction.

You have your choice of standalone speakers, a home stereo system or an A/V receiver.

A power cable is included, and you'll get a range of about 50 feet from your music source to the adapter.

Online: [logitech.com](http://logitech.com); \$39.99

The Sol Republic Tracks Air on-ear wireless headphones look great and sound fantastic.

They are built with a unique headband track system to ensure you get the right fit, no matter how big or small your head is. Each speaker slides onto the headbands track and can be positioned for comfort.

The right speaker (called Sound Engines by the company) has a microUSB port to charge the internal rechargeable battery for up to 15 hours of use. A solid green light indicates that charging is done.

After it's charged, make your wireless connection with Bluetooth or NFC pairing using the multi-functional buttons on the right speaker, which also can be used for changing tracks.

This side also has power and volume controls, and a microphone for hands-free calls.

I used them on a recent cross-country flight. After 2½ hours, the only reason they came off my head was that the flight had landed.

Both the sound and comfort from the padded ear cups scored high marks in my book.

Another cool feature is the ability to connect a pair of devices to the headphones simultaneously.

Online: [solrepublic.com](http://solrepublic.com); \$199, available in black, blue, red and white



## ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 albums on the iTunes Store for July 2:

1. "Trigga" (Deluxe Version), Trey Songz
2. "Don't Kill the Magic," MAGIC!
3. "My Everything" (Deluxe), Ariana Grande
4. "x" (Deluxe Edition), Ed Sheeran
5. "No Other Name" (Deluxe Edition [Live]), Hillsong Worship
6. "Isolate and Medicate" (Deluxe Edition), See-ther
7. "In the Lonely Hour" (Deluxe Version), Sam Smith
8. "Remedy," Old Crow Medicine Show
9. "Paula," Robin Thicke
10. "Thanks for Listening," Colt Ford

— Compiled by MCT

## SPOTIFY MUSIC

The top streamed tracks on Spotify from June 23-29:

1. "Fancy," Iggy Azalea
2. "Rude," MAGIC!
3. "Problem," Ariana Grande
4. "Summer," Calvin Harris
5. "Am I Wrong," Nico & Vinz
6. "Latch," Disclosure
7. "Wiggle" (feat. Snoop Dogg), Jason Derulo
8. "Classic," MKTO
9. "Sing," Ed Sheeran
10. "Wasted," Tiesto

— Compiled by The Associated Press

## ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded on the iTunes Store for July 2:

1. "Rio 2"
2. "The LEGO Movie"
3. "300: Rise of an Empire"
4. "Lone Survivor"
5. "Transcendence"
6. "The Grand Budapest Hotel"
7. "They Came Together"
8. "Non-Stop"
9. "Rio 1 & Rio 2 Double Feature"
10. "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit"

— Compiled by MCT



## VIDEO GAMES

The editors of Game Informer rank the top 10 games from E3 2014:

1. "Evolve," PS4, Xbox One, PC
2. "Batman: Arkham Knight," PS4, Xbox One, PC
3. "Destiny," PS4, Xbox One, PS3, Xbox 360
4. "The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt," PS4, Xbox One, PC
5. "No Man's Sky," PS4
6. "Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare," PS4, Xbox One, PC
7. "For Cry 4," PS4, Xbox One, PS3, Xbox 360, PC
8. "Bloodborne," PS4
9. "Assassin's Creed Unity," PS4, Xbox One, PC
10. "Alien Isolation," PS4, Xbox One, PS3, Xbox 360, PC

— Compiled by MCT

## APPS

Top 5 new paid apps for July 2:

ANDROID

1. Topia World Builder
2. Disney Challenge Challenge
3. The Ministry of Silly Walks
4. The Rhythm of Fighters
5. Heads Up!

Top 5 paid apps for July 2:

APPLE

1. Heads Up!
2. Minecraft — Pocket Edition
3. Stickman Soccer 2014
4. Afterlight
5. Scanner Pro by Readdle

— Compiled by MCT



## WEEKEND

# CHECK IT OUT

## Events, entertainment and other ways to fill your free time

### 1



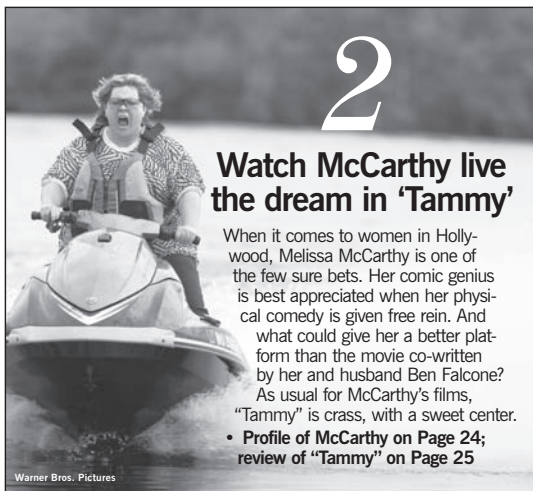
Warner Bros. Pictures

PBS/AP

### The game is afoot for Sherlock fans

Recent Sherlocks of TV and movie fame are on the hunt for clues on AFN in coming days. Robert Downey Jr. (far left), who plays Sherlock Holmes in two recent movies, is in "A Game of Shadows" July 10 on AFN-Movie. "A Study in Pink," the first episode of Season 1 of the BBC "Sherlock" series starring Benedict Cumberbatch (at left), is on AFN-Movie on Sunday.

### 2



### Watch McCarthy live the dream in 'Tammy'

When it comes to women in Hollywood, Melissa McCarthy is one of the few sure bets. Her comic genius is best appreciated when her physical comedy is given free rein. And what could give her a better platform than the movie co-written by her and husband Ben Falcone? As usual for McCarthy's films, "Tammy" is crass, with a sweet center.

- **Profile of McCarthy on Page 24;**
- **review of "Tammy" on Page 25**

Warner Bros. Pictures

### 4

### Grammar lessons from Kelsey Grammer

Most folks aren't terribly fond of being schooled on grammar, but Kelsey Grammer of "Frasier" fame has proved to be an exception to that rule. The actor, who has up until now stayed off of Twitter, is firing helpful corrections back at tweeters. Easy now, Grammer. We've got only 140 characters to work with, after all.

- **Find him on Twitter.com at #KelseyGrammerGrammar**



### 3

### The motliest crews in the galaxy

We know it's still a month before "Guardians of the Galaxy" rambles into theaters, but it's always a good time to reminisce about our favorite random bunches of space goofballs.

As paste.com puts it: "The motley crew has become a favorite subgenre of science fiction. These aren't professional space-faring crews. The members of these crews have been brought to-

gether through a variety of means: convenient time travel snafus, mishaps in cryogenic preservation, prison meet-cutes (and other forms of non-conformist behavior). They're mismatched, chaotic and funny. And even when they're saving the galaxy just to have a good laugh at its expense, it's difficult not to love them."

- **See the 17 motliest crews at [tinyurl.com/strangecrews](http://tinyurl.com/strangecrews)**



DISNEY-MARVEL/AP

Coming soon: The "Guardians of the Galaxy," a motley crew if ever there was one.

## WEEKEND: MOVIES

## New comedy 'Tammy' is Melissa McCarthy's

## DREAM PROJECT

By REBECCA KEEGAN  
Los Angeles Times

One humid night last June, on a dock along one of Wilmington, N.C.'s winding creeks, Melissa McCarthy and Kathy Bates took their places for a scene in the new movie "Tammy." Five years earlier, McCarthy and her husband, Ben Falcone, had written the role with Bates in mind — the Oscar winner was to deliver a needed dressing down to McCarthy's title

character, a perennial screwup. For much of the movie, McCarthy plays the kind of character audiences have come to expect of her — an outrageous woman with big appetites and little judgment. But there are also dramatic moments, like the one with Bates on the dock, that reveal the beating heart underneath all the funny wigs, oversized T-shirts and unflattering shoes.

"Tammy" is part of a transition McCarthy is trying to make for herself. Make no mistake, she's still a peerless physical comedian who uses her size and foul mouth to side-splitting comic effect. But she's also a relatable human being here, one whom audiences won't just laugh at.

McCarthy has the opportunity to try this evolution thanks to her increasing power in Hollywood as a rare female star who can guarantee an audience for a film.

For the actress, "Tammy" is a dream project. It's one she and Falcone — making his feature directing debut — started planning long before her breakout performance in 2011's "Bridesmaids" and starring roles in the subsequent box office hits "Identity Thief" and "The Heat" earned her the kind of career where dreams come true.

"(Ben) said, 'I think I can write something so that you can actually get to do what you like doing, which is being kind of an extreme character but then actually being able to play the heart of it,'" McCarthy said. "It would be nice to write something so you could do that," which was incredibly sweet of him, and at the time the odds of us doing it were ... I don't think we ever thought it was gonna be an actual movie."

In person, McCarthy projects a polish and a sweetness that seem antithetical to many of her characters

**Melissa McCarthy, left, and husband Ben Falcone star in "Tammy." Falcone makes his directorial debut with the film, which he co-wrote with his wife.**

CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AP

character, a perennial screwup.

On set the crew was hushed, the only sound the clicking of cicadas in some nearby oak trees and the water lapping at the dock. Everyone seemed aware that something important was happening ... except the guy in a boat across the lagoon who started playing techno music.

"Do we have anybody over there with a \$100 bill?" McCarthy shouted as a crew member was dispatched to solve the problem.

and in particular to Tammy, who spends a lot of the film dropping F-bombs while wearing a shirt with a cartoon bear on it and a pair of Crocs.

After losing her job, her husband and her dignity, Tammy piles into a late-model Cadillac to drive to Niagara Falls with Pearl, her alcoholic, diabetic grandmother, played by Susan Sarandon in a frumpy wig and prosthetic swollen ankles.

Falcone has a small part as Tammy's unsympathetic boss at a fast-food restaurant; Mark Duplass is Bobby, a charming guy Tammy meets along the way in a bar; and Bates is Lenore, Tammy's highly functional cousin, a no-nonsense businesswoman with a giant plantation-style home and a happy marriage to Susanne (Sandra Oh).

"I love all the women I've played," McCarthy said. "I know why they mess up. They want to hurt somebody before they get hurt. ... They're trying so hard to be better people. I really always think they have a valid point in their point of view. Maybe I like them too much;

I'm defensive for them."

Falcone, 40, and McCarthy, 43, both grew up in Illinois but first met as members of Los Angeles' improv comedy group the Groundlings in the late 1990s, quickly discovering a shared appreciation of the absurd.

In one skit they performed together, as the Jethro Tull song "Locomotive Breath" played in the background, McCarthy was a woman working unhappily at a train station. Falcone, dressed in a silver suit, enticed people at the station to be nicer to her. At some point during the song's instrumental interlude, McCarthy pulled a flute out of her sleeve.

"I thought she was real cute and funny," Falcone said. "We had a quick connection where I felt like, 'she's here, and she makes this room good,' and then I was like, 'Oh, wait, she makes other rooms good — hey, she's making everything good.'"

Falcone and McCarthy married in 2005 and have two daughters, Vivian, 7, and Georgeette, 4.

Twenty minutes later when the shoot was done, McCarthy rose, walked to the end of the dock and started crying, overwhelmed by the emotion of the moment.

"It's a scene we wrote for Kathy Bates, dreamed of her doing, she's actually here doing it and now she's summoned all of her power, which is a lot," McCarthy said, explaining her reaction back in Los Angeles last month. "It was a palpable, amazing feeling. It felt like a lightning bolt ripping through my chest."

The character Tammy, with all of her immaturity, shares DNA with McCarthy in her 20s, the actress admits, a time when she made coffee at a Starbucks in Santa Monica, Calif., among other jobs, while attempting to get her performing career off the ground.

"All through my 20s I worked so hard, so many jobs, but still, you'd go out one night and it's like, there goes a chunk of my rent money," McCarthy said. "It's a feeling of, 'I don't want to grow up, I want it to be easier.' ... All of us, you run in those cycles where you know exactly what you're screwing up doing."

"Intellectually you always know what your faults are, how to fix them, what would make it better. Engaging in those practices is entirely another thing. Those are lifelong struggles for people. ... One of the most fun things to figure out in a character is, 'What's the struggle? What do they know is better, and what do they choose?'"



## WEEKEND: MOVIES



Relativity Media

A group of friends help a small alien that's stranded on Earth find his way home in "Earth to Echo."

# 'Echo' of an '80s classic

## Alien adventure mimics, but can't match 'E.T.'

By ROGER MOORE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

**"E**arth to Echo" is an engagingly unassuming "E.T. knockoff," a kids' movie that serves up a similar alien-with-kids story in "Blair Witch" or "Paranormal Activity" shaky cam package.

It's been more than 30 years since "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial," so why not? Disney produced it, but then sold it to Relativity. Cast with cute, likable kids, given a few decent effects and having that found-footage "reality" of "The Blair Witch Project," it doesn't have the financial or emotional heft of the mythic "phone home" tale. But it works well enough.

Three teenage pals are about to be split apart forever. Their Nevada subdivision is being demolished for some sort of bypass. It's not fair, but what do you do?

Nervous tech nerd Munch (Reese Hartwig), boisterous camera buff Tuck (Brian "Astro" Bradley) and shy, sad-faced Alex (Teo Halm) make the most of their last days together. And when their electronics start going kerfloopy and their cell phones start showing this blotchy shape, they have purpose. What's going on, and why is this construction site so ... "Men in Black"-like?

The blotchy shape is a map, and that sets the lads off on their bikes for a nighttime scavenger hunt with Tuck capturing it all on his GoPro Hero cam, narrating our story as he does. He likes to upload conspiracy videos to the web.

First, they find a canister, and then they figure out who's in it. And then they find five other places on the map that tend to deepen the mystery.

First-time director Dave Green finds plenty of novelty and fun in what is, let's face it, a pretty derivative script by Henry Gayden and Andrew Panay. The creature is like the shiny, digital owl from "Clash of the Titans." Adorable.

But it's the kids and their reaction to this extraordinary encounter that sell this. Communicating with the ... thing ... is paramount. And what's their first question?

"I do you eat humans?"

Like the childlike problem solving that goes on and the PG "breaking curfew" edge to the story, which takes the boys all over their corner of the world, into all sorts of places where they could get into trouble — a bar, an arcade, a pawn shop. Oh,

### New on base

"Earth to Echo" is playing at the following military facilities:

#### Europe

Mildenhall, Ansbach, Baumholder, Grafenwöhr, Hohenfels, Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Stuttgart, Vilseck, Wiesbaden, Aviano, Sigonella, Vicenza and Brunnsum.

#### Pacific

Foster, Futenma, Hansen, Kadena, Kinser, Schwab, Courtney, Yongsan South Post Nos. 1 and 2, Casey, Humphreys, Kunsan and Osan.

Online: callhimecho.com

and they have to venture into the house of their prettiest classmate, the one none of them have the guts to approach — "manikin girl."

When she (Ella Wahlestedt) turns out to have a name — Emma — and to be friendly, gutsy and just as curious as the rest of them, there's another little lift that the movie needs to at least get into the same league as "E.T."

The no-name cast spreads from the kids to the adults, but the parents find a laugh, here and there. The one grown-up most of us will recognize, veteran character actress Mary Pat Gleason, shows up as a biker. Which, once you see her and remember the million other movies she's been in, is worth a chuckle. Wahlestedt and "Astro" stand out among the child actors.

The plot elements swiped from "E.T." are many, but are given tiny twists that rule out plagiarism charges. "Earth to Echo" has lots of blown opportunities, but developing any single step on the kids' night-long adventure would have added minutes to its lean, 91-minute run-time.

And the spooky, nighttime bike ride (handlebar camera) and assorted whiplash-quick action beats serve it well.

Generations removed from Elliott and E.T., there's no sense questioning about a new, pale imitation of it, pumped out for today's kids. Adults? You'll be underwhelmed. But remember, we've seen worse fake "E.T.s," especially in the years right after Spielberg's Reese's Pieces masterpiece came out. And your kids? They will be tickled.

"Earth to Echo" is rated PG for some action and peril, and mild language. Running time: 91 minutes.

# 'Tammy': A crude comedy that's mushy on the inside

By ROGER MOORE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

**S**ay this for Melissa McCarthy: A couple of years into her stardom, and not all that far past the dust-up over critics' deriding her comic reliance on the sight gag that is her physique, she puts it all out there in the opening moments of "Tammy," a star vehicle she co-wrote for herself.

Tammy is a slovenly, morbidly obese vulgarian, from the top of her home-dye-job mop to the bottom of her omnipresent Crocs.

She's not just another nametag at Topper Jack's, the bottom step on the ladder of American fast food. Stuffing her face with Doritos, distracted, she runs her ancient Toyota into a deer. She's late for work — again — and fired for it.

Her gross and profane "exit interview" is the highlight of the movie. Because whatever those riotous opening moments promise — swearing, food abuse "rehearsal" and McCarthy having their sentimental side. This is a rude, crude comedy with a hard candy shell on the outside, soft and squishy on the inside.

Tammy catches her husband (Nat Faxon) sort-of cheating with a neighbor (Toni Collette) and tosses a fit. She rents her mom (Allison Janney), and tries to storm out. But she has no money and no car.

Enter Grannny, played by Susan Sarandon. Tammy needs a change of scene. Grannny brags that she used to be Niagara Falls. And Grannny has an old Cadillac and a few thousand dollars saved up. How hard can it be to get from small-town Illinois to the New York/Canadian border? When you're an idiot with anger-management issues, pretty hard.

They stumble south into Missouri, where Tammy lets on she's never heard of the guy the Mark Twain National Forest is named for. But she has heard of the Allman Brothers, when Grannny brags that she used to date one of them ("the dead one").

Much of the pleasure from "Tammy" derives from Sarandon, decades removed from playing someone this uninhibited, learning to let her hair down from McCarthy — a butchered ride of the Allmans' "Midnight Rider," a "most outrageous thing I've done" confession contest, lots of drinking.

Tammy drinks and drives. And Grannny washes her pills down with cheap bourbon, so Tammy's got nothing on her in terms of "outrageous."

When Grannny Pearl is pursued by a randy farmer (Gary Cole), Tammy figures the farmer's son (Mark Duplass) should be down with cheap bourbon, so she's a deer-in-the-headlights look about him opposite McCarthy, which undercuts the chemistry the

### New on base

"Tammy" is playing at:

#### Europe

Mildenhall, Ansbach, Baumholder, Grafenwöhr, Hohenfels, Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Stuttgart, Vilseck, Wiesbaden, Aviano, Vicenza and Brunnsum.

#### Pacific

Yokota, Zama, Foster, Futenma, Hansen, Kadena, Kinser, Schwab, Courtney, Yongsan South Post Nos. 1 and 2, Casey, Humphreys, Kunsan and Osan.

Online: tammymovie.com

script insists they have.

All Tammy has to do is lose the "ugly inside" and he'll see the real her, right? And maybe ignore the stupidity that's as obvious as every sentence she utters. "I'm kinda like a Cheeto," she purrs. "Ya can't eat just one."

That's Lay's Potato Chips. There are health issues, meaty drunk moments, a "lesbian Fourth of July party," a stick-up, jail time.

All packed into a movie that's more sentimental than sloppy silly. Because we all just want to be loved, deep down, right? Especially the more outrageous among us.

It is crude-pleasing, in its own way, mixing girly gags and slapstick with clueless come-ons.

But for a movie that comes out swinging, "Tammy," in the end, feels like a pulled punch. McCarthy promises a haymaker she never quite delivers.

"Tammy" is rated R for language, including sexual references. Running time: 97 minutes.

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**IN DIGITAL 3D:** Transformers: Age of Extinction (PG-13): Thur 16:00, 19:00, Fri & Sat 15:00, 18:15, 21:45, Sun 15:00, 18:15, Mon 15:00, 18:15, Tue & Wed 19:30  
**IN DIGITAL 3D:** How to train your Dragon 2 (PG): Thur 16:00, 19:00, Fri & Sat 15:00, 18:15, Sun 15:00, 18:15, Mon 13:30, 16:00, Tue & Wed 18:00  
**22 Jump Street (R):** Thur 18:00, 20:30, Fr & Sat 13:30, 16:00, 20:15, 22:30, Sun 18:30, 20:15, Mon 13:30, 16:00, 20:15, Tue & Wed 18:00, 20:30  
**Godzilla (PG-13):** Fri & Sat 22:30  
**IN 2D:** Transformers: Age of Extinction (PG-13): Fri & Sat 22:30  
**Tammy (R):** Thur 16:00, 18:00, 20:30, Fri 15:45, 18:00, 20:15, 22:30, Sat 16:00, 18:00, 20:15, 22:30, Sun 16:00, 18:00, 20:15, Mon 15:45, 18:00, 20:15, Tue & Wed 18:00, 20:30  
**The Fault in Our Stars (PG-13):** Fri & Sat 13:30, Mon 13:30  
**IN 2D:** How to train your Dragon 2 (PG): Sat 15:45, 20:15, Tue & Wed 16:00, 20:30  
**IN 2D:** Transformers: Age of Extinction (PG-13): Thur 17:00, 20:00, Fri 13:30, 16:45, 20:00, Tue & Wed 17:00, 20:00  
**X-Men Days of Future Past (PG-13):** Sat & Sun 13:30

Scan Here or visit our website  
 www.broadwaycinomovie.com

Check movie listings for base theaters at [stripes.com/military-life](http://stripes.com/military-life)



## WEEKEND: VIDEO GAMES

# A heroic effort in gaming

Fans of puzzle-solving games will love 'Valiant Hearts: The Great War'



The puzzle elements make up the bulk of "Valiant Hearts: The Great War," but there are a few action set pieces scattered throughout that help break up the routine.

Photos courtesy of Ubisoft

Anna, the medic, spends most of her time trying to save the lives of the wounded around her.

By MICHAEL S. DARNELL  
*Stars and Stripes*

**"V**aliant Hearts: The Great War" is the latest game from Ubisoft Montpellier, the same studio that brought us "Beyond Good & Evil" and "Rayman Origins," is a puzzle-packed adventure game set in the European countryside with World War I acting as the backdrop.

Like most of their recent games, "Valiant Hearts" is a game that takes a fair amount of chances — from the setting, to the art style, to gameplay itself. There aren't too many video games based on World War I, and even fewer that are puzzle/adventure titles. This new title will pleasantly surprise any doubtful gamer who gives it a chance.

At first glance, "Valiant Hearts" appears to be a comedy. The cartoony visuals, powered by the eye-opening UbiArt Framework engine, are initially used to render cute caricatures of the main characters, but eventually are used to depict some truly horrific images of

trench warfare. The story unfolds in a similar manner, with the opening chapters reflecting the relative optimism of the characters, and then subsequent chapters showing that cheerfulness slowly fading away as the war progressed. There are moments that will make you laugh, and there are moments that will make you realize how terrifying warfare must have been when mustard gas attacks were commonplace.

The focus on four characters helps convey a uniquely human element, as their stories intertwine throughout the years of the war.

Anna, the medic introduced partway through the venture, is most often used as a plot device, but the other three — Karl, the unwilling German conscript; Emile, the duty-bound Frenchman; and Freddie, the American freelancer out for revenge — have well-defined motives that help move the story along.

Their story is told through narration at the beginning of each chapter, which also happens to be the only dialogue in the game. The rest of the interaction between characters is shown through a series of pictographs, which also serve as the backbone for the puzzle-heavy gameplay. Each chapter begins with a series of obstacles to overcome, and the pictographs are the clues. For instance, a soldier will "speak" with an image of a sock, and you'll have to solve a series of puzzles in order to get him not only a sock, but a clean, dry one.

There are some action sequences interspersed throughout "Valiant Hearts," most notable being a few driving sequences that sync up with the music beautifully, but the vast majority of the game revolves around solving puzzles to get from point A to point B. None of the puzzles are particularly hard, which might or might not be a positive for some players. I found most of them to hit a nice balance in the difficulty level, but more seasoned puzzle fans might find them too simplistic. Truth be told, I was happy to have puzzles that provided



terrible living conditions soldiers faced in the trenches. Troops in WWI went through extreme measures to keep their feet dry, as the alternative often led to amputation. While it's a bit dark, "Valiant Hearts" does a decent job of trying to keep the reality of the war in the forefront of the story.

The locations in "Valiant Hearts" take inspiration from the real battlefields of Western Europe, and at each new location, colorized photos and historical context from the war are unlocked. Exploration opens up short histories on WWI artifacts. These can range from recruiting posters to the decidedly unhygienic genesis of the gas mask. When the credits rolled, I knew more about the First World War than I had before the game began, and I was still entertained every step of the way.

That's not to say the game is strictly historical. The historical aspects often butt against some of the more cartoony elements, like the evil Baron and his decidedly unhistorical giant tank. The main characters happen to run into each other at the most opportune times, and there are many moments that stretch credibility, even within the frame of the story being told. The game features an incredibly intelligent dog doing things cartoon animals have been doing in Saturday morning cartoons for decades, and then shift suddenly to

some challenge, but that didn't get in the way of the storytelling. In fact, most of the puzzles helped reinforce the story.

For example, the aforementioned sock puzzle, combined with the detailed visuals, illustrates the

Overall grade: **B+**

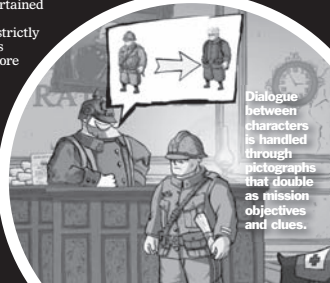
imagery of mountains of corpses. That doesn't really detract from the game, but it's worth noting for people who might be sensitive to drastic tonal shifts, as "Valiant Hearts" is full of them.

The game is priced at \$14.99, an appropriate price for its length. I finished the game in two sittings, which could be an issue for some. Personally, I found the story and production values to be well worth the price of admission. I can easily recommend "Valiant Hearts: The Great War" to gamers who value quality storytelling, fans of puzzle games in general and anybody who might be looking for something a little to the left of ordinary.

**Bottom line:** B+ While a little short, "Valiant Hearts: The Great War" does a great job of using a refreshing take on the puzzle genre in order to tell an emotionally resonant story.

**Platforms:** PC (reviewed), PS4, Xbox One, PS3, Xbox 360

**Online:** valianthearts.ubi.com



## WEEKEND

## Europe

## THE EUROPE EXPERIENCE



JACQUES BRINON/AP

## PACK A BOOK OR A TABLET AND...

## Pick a pretty place to take a break

Paris is famous for its beautiful springtimes, but it can get hot and steamy in the summer. There are many shady terraces where one can take a break while enjoying an overpriced Coke or cold beer. However, there are free alternatives where visitors can enjoy the sun along with some of Paris' best views. This woman is sunning herself at Luxembourg gardens. You might also consider the Tuileries gardens; Trocadero Park, with its refreshing Fountain of Warsaw; and, from mid July to the end of August, the banks of the Seine, which the city magically transforms into a sandy beach.

## TOP TRAVEL PICKS

## Things that go 'vroom'

Fans of things motorized, powerful and loud, one of these three festivals might offer something up your alley.

The past and present of the Alsatian city of Mulhouse, France, is tied to industry, including the production of automobiles. It's not only the site of a plant that makes Peugeots to date, but also the home of the Cité de l'Automobile, a highly regarded museum displaying some 400 models of autos produced by more than 100 European manufacturers (citedelautomobile.com).

One of the biggest annual celebrations hosted by the city, the Automobile Festival opens Friday and runs through Sunday. Presentations and parades bring the history of man's most beloved means of transport alive. This year's program spotlights the Maserati brand, which celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2014, as well as autos connected to the Tour de France, which will pass through the city on July 13.

The festival officially opens Friday evening with an appearance by a former Miss France, Maserati's Alfieri concept car, futuristic musical entertainment and a sound and light show combining fashion and elegant autos such as Maserati, Ferrari California, Lamborghini, Bugatti Porscha, Rolls Royce, Mercedes



Karen Bradbury

See the Europe Traveler blog at [stripes.com/travel/europe-travel](http://stripes.com/travel/europe-travel)

and others. Saturday's daytime program includes a chance to view autos from the museum's collection at Parc Salvator, an auto rally geared toward kids, and an expo on autos from caravans that have accompanied the Tour de France.

From 7 p.m., "La Nuit de l'auto" sees an illuminated parade of collectors' cars plus concerts offering rock, folk and Cuban sounds. On Sunday, a parade of autos from the museum's collection gets underway at 11 a.m. At 2 p.m., La Grande Parade rolls through the center of town, with autos representing those that have participated in Tour de France caravans throughout the years. All events are free. Learn more at <http://festivalauto.mulhouse.fr>.

Elsewhere it's two-wheeled

fun muscling in on center stage. In Garmisch-Partenkirchen, BMW Motorbike Days typically draw tens of thousands of fans of the brand to enjoy riding in the shadow of the Zugspitze along with events such as parties, expos, stunt riding, bonfires, driver training and test drives.

The program celebrates championships and titles won by the brand from 1924 to the present. Don't-miss items on the agenda include: a performance by multiple stunt world champion Chris Pfeiffer; an old-time traveling motorcycle wall-of-death show in a wooden motodrome; live music and dancing on the benches while downing white beer in the evenings; and bike parades on both Saturday and Sunday. Those on a budget can pitch tents at a large on-site campground for 7.50 euros (\$10.20) per tent throughout the event. Get the complete program at [tinyurl.com/npuz7h](http://tinyurl.com/npuz7h).

While BMW fans are home-standing in the German Alps, Harley riders will be flocking to northern Germany for Harley Days in Hamburg from Friday, July 4, to Sunday, July 6. The event features live music, professional stunt and dragster shows, an expo with authorized dealers and customizers and more.

Highlights of Hamburg's fest, the biggest inner-city motorcycle event in Europe, include Saturday's Ride-in Bike Show,

DO THIS:  
Catch 'Le Tour'

With Europe focused intently on the World Cup in Brazil, it might be easy to overlook some of the continent's annual grand sporting events, such as the Tour de France. What's constant in each edition of the world's most famous cycling tour is the distance it covers (about 2,200 miles) and the difficulty of the terrain. What changes is the route. This year, "Le Tour" will pass through many areas close to or within driving distance of U.S. bases.

The race kicks off Saturday in the county of Yorkshire, in the north of England. Visitors might be treated to a sighting of a royal, as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry are slated to be on hand to open the "Grand Depart."

In Stage 1, riders will race from Leeds to Harrogate; Sunday's route, Stage 2, runs between York and Sheffield. On Monday, the third and final portion of the race in England will run between Cambridge and London, finishing on the Mall in St. James Park. Tuesday, the tour heads across the English Channel and into



France for Stage 4 between Le Touquet-Paris-Plage to Lille. On Wednesday, riders tackle the route between Ypres, Belgium, and Arenberg Port du Hainaut, France, characterized by nine sectors along cobblestones. Thursday's action takes place between Arras and Reims. On Friday, it's Eprenay to Nancy, and Saturday, July 12, cyclists will take on the Vosges mountains, pedaling from Tomblaine to Gérardmer La Mauselaine. On July 13, a Sunday, the racers will set off from Gérardmer to Mulhouse. Monday, July 14, Stage 10 runs between Mulhouse and La Planchette des Belles Filles, with a steep climb to the end station, located at a ski resort. Entry to autos is restricted, but shuttles will run on that day, which is a national holiday in France.

The rest of the tour traverses routes far from U.S. military bases before the cyclists cross the finish line on Paris' Champs-Élysées on July 27.

in which some 100 customized bikes will be judged and awarded prizes in eight categories from 11 a.m. on Mönckeburgstrasse. On Sunday, a parade of motorbikes will offer those taking part 20 miles of sightseeing of the city's most famous landmarks, including the Reeperbahn. Bikers will

gather at the Grossmarkt from 11 a.m. and take off shortly thereafter. Those who don't have a bike are advised to view from vantage points along St. Pauli Landungsbrücken, the U-Bahn bridge over Rödingsmarkt, or the Baakenhafen. Details are available at [hamburgharleydays.de](http://hamburgharleydays.de).

Courtesy of [hamburgharleydays.de](http://hamburgharleydays.de)

A highlight of Hamburg Harley Days, the biggest inner-city motorcycle event in Europe, will be a parade of motorbikes on Sunday, July 6, past famous landmarks in Hamburg, Germany.



Looking for even more to do? For additional events, concerts and activities, go to [stripes.com/military-life](http://stripes.com/military-life)

## WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

## Europe

# A castle town for climbing



There isn't much of a castle left on a hill above Caneva, Italy. But the site is still referred to as the Castle of Caneva, and on clear days it offers sweeping views of the countryside southwest of Aviano Air Base.

PHOTOS BY KENT HARRIS/Stars and Stripes

NOGA AM-HAN/Stars and Stripes

## Give your shoes a workout in Caneva, Italy

BY KENT HARRIS  
Stars and Stripes

**E**xcept for the occasional tourist or mountain biker, there isn't anyone storming the castle of Caneva, Italy, these days.

In fact, there isn't much of anything left to storm. The remnants of a few walls surround a little-used church and a cemetery atop a hill overlooking this town about 12 miles from Aviano Air Base. On a clear day, there are sweeping views of mile upon mile of the countryside and villages southwest of Aviano.

But even when the weather is good, there often aren't a lot of visitors. Exceptions include an annual medieval festival the first weekend in July and other special occasions. On most days, it's possible to have the castle to yourself — discounting the lizards and other small wildlife inhabiting the area.

The trek up is certainly worth it, especially if the goal is to get some exercise on a bike or hiking. Although it's a short drive up from the town below, walking up and back would take the better part of a day and burn more than a few calories.

Like just about everywhere in Italy, Caneva boasts some ancient history. There have been some archaeological finds indicating the area was inhabited well before Rome appeared on any map. The castle dates to at least the year 1000 and saw its share of wannabe conquerors.

While Caneva was probably a more important place during the castle's heyday than it is today, it's likely that most residents wouldn't trade places with their ancestors if they could. Along

with most parts of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region, it's more prosperous today in real terms than it's ever been.

Interesting sights besides the castle include the town's main square, Piazza Martiri Garibaldini, a nod to those who died during the revolution that created modern-day Italy. It's dominated by the parish church of St. Thomas the Apostle. The church dates to 1822 and features an interior that can be eerily dark even on the sunniest of days.

The hills to the west and north of the city quickly turn into

mountains, and there are several trails to hike or bike along mountain roads that slowly wind their way into the clouds.

Wine has been produced in the area for centuries, and some older vineyards still churn out grapes. A few outside of town offer tastings to those looking for a new favorite wine.

The weather can change quickly near the mountains, and there isn't a lot to do when it rains. So wait until the sun's out and bring some sturdy shoes.

[harris.kent@stripes.com](mailto:harris.kent@stripes.com)

## ON THE QT

### DIRECTIONS

Caneva is about 12 miles southwest of Aviano. The easiest way to reach it is to take the SS-13 to Sacile and follow the signs from there or via the Mountain Highway from Aviano. It's about a 20-minute drive, depending on traffic and driving speed.

### TIMES

The castle and parish church of St. Thomas the Apostle are usually open to the public during daylight hours.

### COSTS

The main sites are free. There's no admission charge for the castle or parish church.

### FOOD

There are a few places to eat in the town, including a gelateria in Piazza Martiri Garibaldini and a grocery store in the piazza for those interested in putting together a picnic.

### INFORMATION

Find more details and an interactive map at [www.turismofvg.it/locality/caneva](http://www.turismofvg.it/locality/caneva) (in English). The city hall is located on Piazza Martiri Garibaldini.

— Kent Harris



Variations of the Lion of Saint Mark, the symbol of the once-powerful Venetian empire, can be seen on many buildings around the Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Veneto regions, including the castle at Caneva.



The parish church of Saint Thomas the Apostle dominates Piazza Martiri Garibaldini (piazza of Garibaldi's martyrs) in Caneva.



## WEEKEND: FOOD &amp; DINING

## Europe



The vegan lasagna is an interesting take on an old classic, one of the few dishes at Chesmu in Nuremberg that constitute a vegan version of a traditionally non-vegetarian dish.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL S. DARNELL/Stars and Stripes

The curried vegetable plate at Chesmu was a pleasant surprise, as the light and crisp flavors of the homemade Thai-inspired curry made this a personal favorite of the evening.

## After Hours: Germany

BY MICHAEL S. DARNELL  
Stars and Stripes

**D**uring my short time living in Germany, I have befriended not one, but two stringent vegetarians. For an omnivore like me, Germany — the land of a thousand meats — is basically food heaven, but for vegetarians, dining out can sometimes be a dull experience.

While it's true that many restaurants make some token concession to vegetarians, most of those offerings are generic salads or roasted plates of whatever vegetable was being served as the side dish that evening. This holds true even in the bigger cities, making finding a place that fits everybody's lifestyle a daunting proposition.

The owners of Chesmu, a small vegetarian restaurant found just off the beaten path in Nuremberg, seems to have taken that personally, and thus have brought their passion for vegan and vegetarian cuisine to the people with a flair not often found in Bavaria.

Chesmu is not the easiest restaurant to find, with its unassuming doorway that blends into the building, and it's far enough away from the Altstadt that visi-

## CHESMU

**Address:** Johannisstr. 40, 90419 Nuremberg.  
**Hours:** Tuesday-Friday and Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
**Dress:** The restaurant setting is extremely casual, so basic tourist attire is fine.

**Menu:** Vegetarian  
**Prices:** Almost everything costs from 4-10 euros.  
**Clientele:** Mostly German.  
**Menu:** English-language menus are available upon request.

**More information:** Phone: (+49) (0) 911-390-390; website: chesmu.de

— Michael S. Darnell

tors to the city are not likely to just stumble upon it.

Once found, though, this small eatery is evidence that vegetarian cooking doesn't have to be dull.

The menu offers a rotating assortment of seasonal creations, with an underpinning of some staples. The vegan lasagna — a fair facsimile of the cheese-laden classic — is on offer year round, while selections like a baked goat



This small sign above a regular doorway is the only indication that you've arrived at one of Nuremberg's best vegetarian restaurants.

cheese and tomato dish is more dependent on the availability of quality ingredients. More technically impressive dishes, like a spinach and mushroom dumpling and a black rice pudding, show the chef isn't content to fall back on meat analogs or basic vegetable towers.

No, Chesmu's menu takes



This spinach and fresh cheese dumplings might be the most inventive item on the Chesmu menu.

risks, and more often than not, it seems to pay off. The red curried vegetable plate could have been a typical heavy curry, but the light

Thai-inspired preparation gave the dish a very refreshing bite. The chef could have drenched the vegan lasagna in a tomato sauce to cover any imperfections in the flavor, but presented it as it was and, as a result, it was a favorite of my party. Even though I'm not one to go out of my way to eat a plate of vegetables, every dish I sampled had clean, uncomplicated flavors.

The chef made several rounds to check on his patrons. That personal touch, coupled with the airy, colorfully decorated dining room, lent a very relaxing atmosphere to the entire experience. He and the extremely friendly wait staff were happy to answer questions, and they all seemed very excited about the menu. It's always great to eat at a restaurant run by people who are so clearly passionate about their food.

Chesmu is not the place I would have visited under normal circumstances, but after having one of my more memorable dining experiences in Germany there, I can honestly say it's worth seeking out, even for an omnivore like me.

darnell.michael@stripes.com



While this black rice pudding wasn't the most inviting dish on Chesmu's menu, it showed a bit of inventiveness that was indicative of the risk-taking offerings at the restaurant.



Chesmu's desserts, like this strawberry tiramisu, are made daily.

## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe



Photos courtesy of Leukerbad Tourismus

# Steep thrills in the Alps

Adventurers with nerves of steel can test their skills at rock climbing on the Gemmi Wall, which looms over Leukerbad, Switzerland.

## Thermal waters will soothe aches after hiking, biking, climbing in Swiss town

By LEAH LARKIN

Special to Stars and Stripes

**T**he skinny metal suspension bridge swayed with each step I took. Some 13 feet below raged the powerful Dala River through a spectacular gorge. It was awesome, and a tad scary.

The bridge is just one breathtaking part of the thermal canyon walk, a nearly 2,000-foot-long trek mainly on metal walkways and stairs constructed high above the river on the sides of the canyon. This adventure in Leukerbad, Switzerland, is not for those queasy about heights. For all others, it's fabulous.

You have to admire the engineering skills that made this possible, as well as the majesty of nature. The mountain waters surge through this narrow channel below towering, craggy rock walls and race down more rocks, creating a steep waterfall. Being in the midst of it all is thrilling.

After the hike through the gorge, which begins just outside the town, follow a path up through the woods and fields back to Leukerbad. We spotted a none-too-sly deer munching grass on our return trek.

Leukerbad, a spa town high in the Alps, is all about water, mainly thermal water bubbling from 65 springs that fill the town's 30 pools.

Relaxing in those pools is a treat. As jets of warm water massaged my body in an outdoor pool, I pondered the mountain backdrop: rugged brown-gray walls reaching to the sky. Mist slowly descended, gradually rolling down the mountains until they disappeared and all was white. The mist had turned into snow. It was mystical, better than Hollywood special effects.

I was stretched out on a platform surrounded by bubbling water at the Walliser Alpen-Therme and Spa. The dimly lit ambience indoors is hushed, refined, soothing. I felt I was in one of those classy spa pictured in up-market travel brochures.



A breathtaking walk on a swaying metal suspension bridge high above a raging river is part of a 600-meter-long trek in Leukerbad. This adventure is not for those who are queasy about heights.

With 10 pools indoors and out, the town's other main spa center, the Leukerbad Therme, offers a far different spa experience — more fun than repose. Children, and some adults, love the various pool slides. On one, you grab a tire and soar down nearly 348 feet of sharp curves. The tube slide has two 360-degree twists. There is a baby and toddler's pool. Just as at the Walliser Spa, superb mountain scenery surrounds the outdoor pools. The steam bath is in a sort of spooky cave and very, very hot. If you can stand it for several minutes, you'll be ready for the shock of the adjacent ice pool.

Thermal waters are the perfect end to a day of hiking. Leukerbad's mountains offer all sorts of trails, some almost 125 miles, leading through villages as well as to mountain peaks. The tourist office brochure has details on hikes from 1½ hours to all-day treks.

For those not into strenuous uphill treks, two cable cars (Gemmi and Torrent) whisk you to the heights. From the top, you can set off on a leisurely high-altitude stroll or a more demanding trek and enjoy the views.

Leukerbad's new "hot spot" is the viewing platform at the top of the Gemmi cable car line. The steel platform extends from the rock face. Be brave and look down through the floor, a metal

grill, to wide-open spaces — a drop of 820 feet to the ground. Experienced mountaineers will find plenty of challenge on Leukerbad's Via Ferrata. The steep rock faces that tower above the town are equipped with 708 feet of ladders and more than 6,560 feet of steel cable leading to the summit of the Dauberhorn: 9,646 feet. A 328-foot section passes through a cave, which, in winter, serves as a channel for avalanches en route to the valley.

If you are not up for mountain climbing, try the Gemmi adventure Via Ferrata, a slack-line park below the Gemmi cable car station. For challenge it offers a 213-foot-long rope bridge and a nearly 66-foot-high ladder.

Mountain bikers, Leukerbad is for you. Choose from among five gentle, nine medium-difficulty and four advanced routes. For an even more exciting adventure, rent a monster scooter at the top of the Torrent cable car line for a rapid descent to the valley. From there, you can also join a guided trek with alpacas.

Rock climbing, paragliding and golf are other summer activities popular at Leukerbad. The town sports arena, which is used as a training base for Swiss Olympic athletes, has a climbing hall, indoor tennis courts, squash courts and a gymnasium.

Leah Larkin can be contacted through her website, leahlarkin.com, or blog address, talesandtravel.com.

## KNOW & GO

- **Getting there:** Leukerbad is in southwestern Switzerland in the bilingual canton of Valais/Wallis. French is spoken in the western part of the canton, while German is the language in the eastern part, which includes Leukerbad.
- **Costs:** A guided tour of the thermal spring trail and gorge at 2 p.m. Tuesdays is free. A guided tour of Leukerbad, followed by a wine tasting, is given at 4 p.m. Mondays and costs 5 Swiss francs (about \$5.60) per person.

There is moonlight bathing at the Walliser Spa, from 8:30-11:30 July 26 and Aug. 31; it costs 27 francs per person, which also includes use of the saunas by candlelight.

Guided alpaca excursions

are available

Tuesdays

and Fridays

through Sept.

7; they cost

39 francs for

adults, 29

francs for

children. No

charge for

those born in

2006 or later.

The three-

to-four-hour

excursion

includes a picnic.

• **Accommodations:** The family-

run Hotel Alpina in the heart

of Leukerbad offers comfortable

accommodations and an excel-

lent restaurant. Try the Guggeli

im Chörbl mit Pommes Frites

(small, young chicken in a basket with french fries); email [info@alpina-leukerbad.ch](mailto:info@alpina-leukerbad.ch).

• **Camping Sportarena,** a three-star campsite at the edge of the village, has a restaurant and children's playground: [sportarena.leukerbad.ch](http://sportarena.leukerbad.ch).

• **Food:** After a day of outdoor activity, satisfy your appetite with a Swiss favorite, fondue or raclette. Be sure to try the local wine.

Vineyards abound on slopes at lower levels in this part of Switzerland. For upscale dining, the Waldhaus, also a hotel, is tops for both gourmet cuisine and wines: [hotel-waldhaus.ch](http://hotel-waldhaus.ch).

• **Package deals:** Some hotels and apartments offer the Leukerbad Card Plus with booking. The

card offers numerous discounts on spa entry,

cable cars, free use of E-bikes and more; [leukerbad.ch/lbc](http://leukerbad.ch/lbc).

Family packages that include three nights' lodging,

admission to the Leukerbad Therme, round-

trip on either cable car and the Leukerbad Card Plus start at 278 Swiss francs per adult; prices are

reduced for children by age.

• **Information:** See [leukerbad.ch](http://leukerbad.ch).

— Leah Larkin



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## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe

## Exhibit puts focus on the paparazzi

By MICHAEL ABRAMS  
Stars and Stripes

**P**aparazzi is the plural form of the noun paparazzo, which, according to Webster's New World College Dictionary, is "a photographer, often a freelance one, who takes candid shots, often in an intrusive manner, of celebrities for newspapers or magazines."

The word originates from Federico Fellini's 1960 film "La Dolce Vita," in which a photographer named Paparazzo chased Anita Ekberg through Rome.

As a photojournalist, I've had the word paparazzi thrown at me many times. By family and friends — sometimes only half in jest and by people on the street when I'm waiting, cameras around my neck, for an event to happen.

A new exhibit, "Paparazzi! Photographers, Stars and Artists," just opened at the Schirn in Frankfurt, Germany, so I thought I would check it out to see if I fit the bill.

The exhibit,

Many more photos of the paparazzi exhibit at [stripes.com/paparazzi](http://stripes.com/paparazzi)



originally put together by the Centre Pompidou in Metz, France, is the first to focus on paparazzi photography. It is divided into three parts.

The first, "Photographers," deals with the craft of paparazzi photography. Check out the camera on display armed with a 1000 mm telephoto lens used to "shoot" celebrities from afar. The second part, "Stars," covers the relationship between paparazzi, mostly male, and their mostly female celebrity prey. Six

female celebrities from the 1960s to the present — Brigitte Bardot, Elizabeth Taylor, Jackie Kennedy Onassis, Princess Diana, Paris Hilton and Britney Spears — are featured in this section. Photos range from nudes of Bardot and Onassis (taken with a giant telephoto lens from afar) to up-close images of a pantyless Spears getting out of a car while out on the town with Paris.

The third part, called "Artists," is devoted to the influence of paparazzi-style photography

on the arts. There is a silkscreen print by Richard Hamilton based on a photo of Mick Jagger on his way to court wearing handcuffs and shielding his face. Works by Cindy Sherman and Alison Jackson imagine paparazzi moments that never happened. Jackson uses lookalikes to stage photos of "Princess Diana" flipping the finger, "the Queen" reading the paper on the loo, and "George W. Bush" playing with a Rubik's Cube.

The paparazzi influence on

fashion photography is illustrated with a selection of Richard Avedon's images for a Harper's Bazaar fashion spread.

While the exhibit is entertaining, and perhaps offers us a view into our darker, nosier side, it made me sure — no matter what friends, family and strangers might say — a paparazzo, I am not.

[abrams.mike@stripes.com](mailto:abrams.mike@stripes.com)

The exhibit runs until Oct. 12 at the Schirn in Frankfurt; <http://schirn.de/en/home.html>



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Members of the press try to catch Anita Ekberg getting off a plane in Federico Fellini's "La Dolce Vita." A photographer in the film was named Paparazzo, spawning the plural, paparazzi.

# Hotel Directory

## GERMANY

<p><b>Hotel Am See</b> Kirschenthamer Str. 36 92676 Eschenbach Tel: +49 (0)9645-8444 • Mobil: +49 (0)175-4024023 <a href="http://www.hotelamsee.de">www.hotelamsee.de</a> • <a href="mailto:hotelamsee@usa.net">hotelamsee@usa.net</a> FREE WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS Situating on the shore of the Rüdowsee</p>	<p><b>Glutschaufel Hotel &amp; Restaurant</b> International Hotel &amp; Cuisine Cosmopolitan Atmosphere Open: Mon-Sat 5pm-11pm Übersee 1, 92676 Eschenbach 09645/602900 <a href="http://www.glutschaufel.de">www.glutschaufel.de</a></p>
<p><b>City Hotel Pension</b> Am Schoenberg 18 • 92655 Grafenwoehr <a href="http://www.city-hotel-pension-grafenwoehr.de">www.city-hotel-pension-grafenwoehr.de</a> mail:city@hotel-pension-grafenwoehr.de FREE WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS 09641-936390</p>	<p><b>Hotel Forsthaus by Garmisch</b> Free Breakfast, Family Apartments, Hot Tub, Sauna, Dogs Welcome, American/German Owned, 36 EUR/Person, Double Occupancy, Per Night. Tel: 08824-9120 • Email: <a href="mailto:hotel@forsthaus-oberau.de">hotel@forsthaus-oberau.de</a> VAT Forms accepted! <a href="http://www.forsthaus-oberau.de">www.forsthaus-oberau.de</a></p>
<p><b>Pullman Stuttgart Fontana</b> Vollmoellerstr. 5, 70563 Stuttgart-Vaihingen Tel: 0711-7300 • Email: <a href="mailto:h2425@accor.com">h2425@accor.com</a> <a href="http://www.pullmanhotels.com">www.pullmanhotels.com</a> Near the beautiful city park, close to Kelti &amp; Patch Banquets. A perfect place for overnight stays as well as conferences and parties.</p>	<p><b>Hotel de France</b> "Historical Boutique Hotel in Wiesbaden's Taunusstraße" Tel +49 (0)611-95 97 30 <a href="mailto:welcometo@hoteldefrance.com">welcometo@hoteldefrance.com</a> <a href="http://www.hoteldefrance.com">www.hoteldefrance.com</a> VAT Forms accepted / Credit Cards accepted.</p>
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# Restaurant Directory

## GERMANY

<p><b>Bavaria-Graf/Vilseck area</b> Since 1978 <b>China Restaurant Peking</b> Chinese and Mongolian Buffet Nikolaistr. 8, 92657 Weiden/Opf Tel. 0961-33896 Fax. 0961-34073 <a href="http://www.peking-weiden.de">www.peking-weiden.de</a></p>	<p><b>Kaiserslautern area</b> <b>QUACK</b> Gasthaus &amp; Biergarten Inh. Sascha Gärtner Entenweilerstraße 74 67657 Kaiserslautern <a href="http://www.Quack-kl.de">www.Quack-kl.de</a> Tel. 0631-42828</p>	<p><b>Mainz / Wiesbaden area</b> <b>Donauhaus Castel</b> Germany's Finest Beer and Authentic German Cuisine Unit Parties for up to 200 guests Otto Suhr Ring 27 55253 Mainz-Kastell Tel. 06134-24999 <a href="http://www.brauhaus-castel.de">www.brauhaus-castel.de</a></p>
<p><b>Glutschaufel Hotel &amp; Restaurant</b> International Hotel &amp; Cuisine Cosmopolitan Atmosphere Open: Mon-Sat 5pm-11pm Übersee 1, 92676 Eschenbach Tel: 09645/60 29 00 <a href="http://www.glutschaufel.de">www.glutschaufel.de</a></p>	<p><b>Trattoria Da Salvatore</b> Fleischerhandlung 1 66849 Lutzerath 06371-2497 <a href="http://www.pizzeria-salvatore.com">www.pizzeria-salvatore.com</a></p>	<p><b>PAPPEL HAUS</b> Steinmetzstrasse 2, 55252 Mainz-Kastell 06134-5649669 Get our juicy Irish Angus Burger!</p>
<p><b>PALLAS</b> GREEK SPECIALITIES Pallas Greek Specialities Unterer Markt 15 92637 Weiden Tel/Fax: +49 (0)961-431 62</p>	<p><b>China Restaurant</b> <b>China City</b> Mongolian Grill-Barbecue All you can eat Straßburger Allee 8 * KL 0631 303 7638 - Free parking</p>	<p><b>okinii</b> Taunus Strasse 22 65183 Wiesbaden Tel. 0611-23835808</p>
<p><b>KB's Country &amp; Western Saloon</b> Bergstr. 4, 92259 Vilseck 09662-7014481 Open Fri 19:00-03:00 Sat 18:00-03:00</p>	<p><b>Minges</b> The Only Indoor and Outdoor Mexican Sports bar in Ktown. Am Warmbüchel 3 • 67657 Kaiserslautern Daily Drink &amp; Menu Specials!</p>	<p><b>Villa im Tal</b> Fine Dining - Events - Catering Adamstraße 4 65195 Wiesbaden Tel: 0611-2386228 <a href="http://www.villaimtal.de">www.villaimtal.de</a></p>
<p><b>Garmisch-Partenkirchen</b> <b>Leute</b> Open Wed-Mon: Noon-11pm (Tues. Closed) Call for Reservations / Take Out Orders Tel: 08821-57486 <a href="http://www.istorante-la-mama-garmisch.de">www.istorante-la-mama-garmisch.de</a> Zugspitzstrasse 27, 82667 Garmisch-Partenkirchen</p>	<p><b>Mainz / Wiesbaden area</b> <b>Saytoun</b> Saytoun Cuisine Oriental Wilhelm Strasse 52 65183 Wiesbaden 0611-3086116</p>	<p><b>SMOKETRIPE</b> Nassaustrasse 6-8 65719 Hofheim-Wallau 06122-4022 <a href="http://www.smoketribebq.com">www.smoketribebq.com</a></p>
<p><b>Kaiserslautern area</b> <b>Holzofen Pizzeria Am Seewog</b> Waldstr. 40, 66877, Ramstein-Miesenbach Tel: 06371 9522955 Fax: 06371 9522944 <a href="http://www.seewogpizzeria.de">www.seewogpizzeria.de</a></p>	<p><b>ENCHILADA - PISO MEXICO</b> Enchilada - Restaurant Bay Mexicano Schützenhofstr. 3, 65183 Wiesbaden Tel: 0611 450483-0 <a href="http://wiesbaden.enchilada.com">wiesbaden.enchilada.com</a> <a href="http://www.enchilada.de">www.enchilada.de</a></p>	<p><b>Café Temptation</b> "reservations recommended" Walter-Hallstein Strasse 5-7 65197 Wiesbaden (5 minutes from the Hainerberg/VPX area) Tel: 0611-6091230 Email: <a href="mailto:info@cafe-temptation.de">info@cafe-temptation.de</a> <a href="http://www.cafe-temptation.de">www.cafe-temptation.de</a></p>
<p><b>Stuttgart</b> <b>Kashmir</b> Authentic Indian Cuisine Esslinger Str. 11 Phone 0711-9976 38 16 Leonberger Str. 97 Phone 07152-90 32 32</p>	<p><b>Gabriel Restaurant</b> Original Mediterranean Küche Erich-Ollenhauer-Strasse 106 65199 Wiesbaden • Tel. 0611-58534 <a href="http://www.gabriel-restaurant.de">www.gabriel-restaurant.de</a></p>	



## WEEKEND

## Pacific

## THE PACIFIC EXPERIENCE



The Yomiuri Shimbun

## DO THIS: Pick tea in Japan

A woman and her daughter from Niigata prefecture attend a tea-picking event in Shimada, Shizuoka prefecture. The largest tea fields in Japan, Makinohara Tea Estate, cover about 12,355 acres. The World Tea Museum is also located in Shimada, and visitors can learn about the tea industry and tea culture in Japan and abroad. The museum has a Japanese garden and a tea ceremony room. For more: [tinyurl.com/m6lnu93](http://tinyurl.com/m6lnu93) or Shimada City Tourist Association at (0547) 46-2844.



DAN STEINBERG/Invision/AP

Paris Hilton will appear at the Super X Summer Festival in Seoul, South Korea, in August.

## FESTIVAL CONCERTS

## Okinawa

**32ND PEACEFUL LOVE ROCK FESTIVAL 2014 (Okinawa):** July 12 & 13, 1:30 p.m.; featuring Hy, Def Tech, Kariyushi 58, D-51, Ovda, Civilian Skunk, Asian Reggae, Freddie Eto & Queeness, Kachan Band, Jet, Takeout, Infree and others; Okinawa City Outdoor Stage; 4,000 yen one-day ticket, 3,500 yen in advance, 6,000 yen two-day ticket, 1,000 yen kids with guardians; [tinyurl.com/n0jltzu](http://tinyurl.com/n0jltzu)

## Japan

**FUJI ROCK FESTIVAL 2014 (Niigata):** July 25-27, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; featuring Franz Ferdinand, Arcade Fire, Foster the People, Hunter Hayes, The Lumineers, The Pogues, Outkast and other acts at Naeba Ski Resort, free bus from JR Echigo Yuzawa Station; 18,300 yen one-day ticket, 44,000 yen three-day ticket, 3,000 yen/person for camp site; [fujirock-eng.com](http://fujirock-eng.com).

**SONICMANIA 2014 (Chiba):** Aug. 15, 10 p.m.; featuring Kasabian, Craftwerk, Zedd, Mogwai, Krewella, Nero, 2manydjs at Makuhari Messe; 10,500 yen, 20,000 yen premium tickets; [tinyurl.com/kncbq2](http://tinyurl.com/kncbq2).

**SUMMER SONIC 2014 (Chiba):** Aug. 16 & 17, 11 a.m.; featuring Arctic Monkeys, Robert Plant, Superfly, The

1975, Avenged Sevenfold, Megadeth, Ghost, Suicidal Tendencies, coldrain, Queen + Adam Lambert, Richie Sambora, Kaera Kimura, Ellie Goulding, Banks, Robert Glassper Experiment, Azealia Banks, Myday and others; QVC Marine Field, 15,500 yen one-day ticket, 28,500 yen two-day ticket, 30,000 yen premium one-day ticket includes viewing area, lounge, more; [summersonic.com/2014](http://summersonic.com/2014).

**SUMMER BREEZE (Tokyo):** Sept. 1-3, 7 & 9-30 p.m.; featuring Shakatak, Take 6, Air Supply, Na Leo and Swing Out Sister; Billboard Live Tokyo, 7,800-9,800 yen; 03-3405-1133.

## South Korea

**INCHEON PENTAPORT ROCK FESTIVAL:** Aug. 1-3; Incheon Songdo 23rd Geunrin Park; 164,600 won three-day pass; [tinyurl.com/3e6rwh](http://tinyurl.com/3e6rwh)

**SUPER X SUMMER FESTIVAL (Seoul):** Aug. 15 & 16, 11 a.m., featuring Paris Hilton, Taboo of the Black Eyed Peas at Sheraton Grande Walkerhill Hotel, Riverpark Pool; 120,000 won one-day ticket, 220,000 won two-day ticket; [tinyurl.com/3e6rwh](http://tinyurl.com/3e6rwh)

**GLOBAL GATHERING (Seoul):** Oct. 1-4; featuring Prodigy, Pendulum, Underworld and more at Jamsil Sports Complex; 66,000 won; [tinyurl.com/3e6rwh](http://tinyurl.com/3e6rwh)



Kori SASAHARA/AP

## Treasures on display in Tokyo

A man looks at the imperial stone seals with animal design knobs of the Qing Dynasty on display at the Tokyo National Museum in Tokyo during a press preview of Treasured Masterpieces from the National Palace Museum Taipei in June. The event is now through Sept. 14. For more: [www.tnm.jp](http://www.tnm.jp).

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# WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## FIREWORKS

# Pacific

### Japan

**MOUNT FUJI OPENING/FIREWORKS IN LAKE KAWAGUCHI (Yamanashi prefecture):** July 5, 8:30 p.m.; 2,000 fireworks at Kawaguchiko Funazukuma Parking; Kawaguchiko Town Sightseeing Bureau 0555-72-3168.

**KURIHAMA PERRY FESTIVAL FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** July 12, 7:20-8:10 p.m.; 3,500 fireworks at Kurihama Beach and festival starts at 10 a.m. with bazaar, band performances, parade scheduled; 046-827-8000.

**ADACHI FIREWORKS (Tokyo):** July 19, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; 12,000 fireworks beside the Arakawa River; 03-3890-5853.

**TOWADA LAKE FIREWORKS (Aomori prefecture):** July 19 & 20, 8-9 p.m.; 2,000 fireworks in four days at Yasumiya Pier by Towada Lake; 0176-75-2425.

**KATSUSHIKA FIREWORKS (Tokyo):** July 22, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; 12,000 fireworks at Katsumichi Shibamata Ball Park; 2,000 yen; 03-3826-2571.

**KAMAKURA FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** July 23, 7:20-8:10 p.m.; 2,500 fireworks at Yugahama Beach and Zaimokuza Beach.

**HAYAMA BEACH FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** July 24, 7:30-8:15 p.m.; 1,000 fireworks; Morido Kaigan Beach and Ishiki Kaigan Beach Breakwater; 046-876-1111.

**HACHIOJI FIREWORKS (western Tokyo):** July 26, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; 3,000 fireworks at Hachioji Shimin Kyujo (bullpark); 042-643-3115.

**SUMIDA RIVER FIREWORKS (Tokyo):** July 26, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; features 20,000 fireworks at two locations along Sumida River; tinyurl.com/mz2qzy.

**SHOWA KINEN PARK FIREWORKS (western Tokyo):** July 26, 7:20-8:30 p.m.; about 5,000 fireworks in the Open Field at Showa Kinen Park.

**URATASYU CITY FIREWORKS (Chiba prefecture):** July 26, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; about 6,500 fireworks at Urawa City Sogo Undo Koen; 047-351-1111.

**LAKE SAGAMI FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** Aug. 1, 7:30-8:50 p.m.; about 5,000 fireworks at the lakeside; 1,000-2,000 yen adults with



Courtesy of Omagari Chamber of Commerce

**The All Japan Fireworks Competition 5:30-6:15 p.m. and 6:50-9:30 p.m. Aug. 23** at Omonogawa riverside near Omagari Bridge in Akita prefecture, Japan. The event features 28 fireworks experts with 18,000 fireworks.

designated seats, 4,000 yen for four designated seats; 042-684-2633.

**ODAWARA SAKAWAGAWA RIVER FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7:10-8 p.m.; about 5,000 fireworks beside river; 0465-33-1521.

**ATSUGI AYU (SWEETFISH) FESTIVAL FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; 10,000 fireworks by Sagami River; 046-225-2820.

**SOUTHERN BEACH CHIGASAKI FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7:30-8:20 p.m.; 3,000 fireworks along the coast of Southern Beach Chigasaki; 0467-821-1111.

**AKISHIMA CITY KUJIRA FESTIVAL FIREWORKS**

(western Tokyo): Aug. 2, 8-8:30 p.m.; 2,340 fireworks at Akishima Koen Stadium, the highlight of the Akishima Kujira (whale) festival which includes music, karaoke, children's show, a Kujira parade at 4 p.m. Aug. 3 starting at JR Akishima Station; 042-543-8186.

**TAKASAKI FIREWORKS (Gunma prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7:40-8:30 p.m.; about 15,000 fireworks at Karasugawa Wadobashi (upper reaches) riverside; 027022-1257.

**OME FIREWORKS (western Tokyo):** Aug. 2, 7:30-8:40 p.m.; about 3,200 fireworks at Nagayama Park; designated seats are 200-1,000-5,000 yen; 0428-24-2481.

**AGEO FIREWORKS FESTIVAL (Saitama prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7 p.m.; near the Riverside

Phoenix Golf Club course; 048-775-5917.

**YOKOSUKA KAIKOKU FESTIVAL FIREWORKS (Kanagawa prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7:15-7:45 p.m.; 5,000 fireworks as the finale of Yokosuka Kaikoku (port opening) festival July 27-Aug. 2; Off Umikaze Park; 046-822-8284.

**KOGA FIREWORKS (Ibaraki prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7:20-8:50 p.m.; 20,000 fireworks at Kago Golf Links (shore of Lake Watarase); 0280-92-3111.

**MATSUDO FIREWORKS (Chiba prefecture):** Aug. 2, 7:15-8:20 p.m.; 8,000 fireworks at Edogawa River; 047-366-7337.

**ITABASHI FIREWORKS FESTIVAL (Tokyo):** Aug. 2, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; 11,000 fireworks beside the Arakawa River (south side); 03-3579-2255.

### Okinawa

**SEAPORT CHATAN CARNIVAL 2014:** July 5 & 6, 8-8:15 p.m.; 1,300 fireworks at Chatan Park Sunset Beach, 40 minutes from Naha Airport; 098-926-5678.

**ORION BEER FEST 2014 IN ISHIGAKI:** July 12, 8:45 p.m.; fireworks at Ishigaki City Shinei Koen as part of annual beer festival that features factory-outlet beer, food booths, traditional taiko (Japanese drum), live music by Diamantes, Isamu Shimoi, Kaori Nakata and more; free; 098-877-5050.

**OCEAN OPEX GOLF OKINAWA SUMMER FESTIVAL 2014:** July 19; 10,000 fireworks 8-9 p.m. at the Emerald Beach, plus a concert 4 p.m.; Motobu, Kunikimi-gun, two-hour drive north of Naha; free entrance to the Ocean OpeX Park; 0980-48-2741.

**URASOE TEDAKO FESTIVAL:** July 19 & 20; more than 1,000 fireworks 8:40-9 p.m. at Urasoe Athletic Park, along with taiko drum, eisa dance, harii dragon race and more; 098-876-1234.

### South Korea

**POHANG INTERNATIONAL FIREWORKS FESTIVAL (North Gyeongang province):** July 31-Aug. 3, 5:30-9 p.m.; 10th annual celebration at Hyeongsangang Sports Park, Yeongil-dong Northern Beach and other sites; +82-2-1330; http://tinyurl.com/6849221.

Get more: [stripes.com/go/pacificfireworks](http://stripes.com/go/pacificfireworks).

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# WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING

## Pacific

# After Hours: Okinawa

By DAVE ORNAUER  
Stars and Stripes

**O**n a rise off a seaside road in Okinawa about three miles west of Camp Courtney stands a cluster of buildings that used to house military families long ago, single dwellings that you see today in places such as Camp Foster's Kishaba Housing Area but that closed and were turned over to the Japanese government in the 1970s and '80s.

Several still have families, mostly Japanese, living in them. Others have been converted into small mom-and-pop restaurants whose names are as motley as the fare they purvey. One is called Isle de Pins. Another bears the name Soupçon (and no, the Soup Nazi of Seinfeld fame does not work there).

The aptly named Exit Cafe stands right at the roadside, the restaurant's colorful signs/menus in plain sight at the end of the road where one enters to dine there. Pizza and pasta, garlic and other fare that Americans favor are there to see in English, beckoning prospective patrons from the road to its quaint, homey trappings.

A sound system greets guests with a wide range of music. Four tables inside can seat as many as 20; during good weather, the deck outside has three more tables and can seat up to 10 more patrons.

The walls are pale white, the old floor planks are visible, there

being no carpet. Bottles can be seen everywhere, along with toy horses and reindeer and a cap that reads "Momo" with a heart sign.

Momo is the name of Exit Cafe's chief chef and wife of its owner, Kenichi Ogata, 50, a retired restaurateur/hairdresser. They retired 18 months ago to Okinawa from Funabashi, east of Tokyo in Chiba Prefecture, but they were far from ready to stop working altogether. They opened Exit Cafe in December 2012 because, "I like the business," Kenichi Ogata said.

Locals say these former military housing units, which can sleep as many as four, are well-suited to small restaurants such as this. Front rooms are easily converted into dining rooms, they already come kitchen-equipped, a bedroom serves as a store room, another as a room for private occasions and the third as Ogata's business office. An old washer and dryer, perhaps holdovers from when military personnel lived there, can be found out back.

Though such clusters of old military housing can be found in a few places on Okinawa, using them as restaurants and other small businesses is unusual given the history of what happens to vacated military housing. Makimino on Okinawa, which closed in the 1980s, was bulldozed and turned into businesses and residences, as was Chufo Air Base west of Tokyo. Showa Park now occupies a large section of



PHOTOS BY DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

**It's bottles, bottles everywhere behind a colorful menu at Exit Cafe Okinawa.**

what used to be Tachikawa Air Base near Yokota.

Exit Cafe is quite literally a room with a view, a spectacular one of Kin Bay on the island's sunrise side; hence why the area where the housing is located is called Akebono, Japanese for sunrise. On clear days, one can see everything from Yaka and Kin villages to the west all the way across the bay to Ikei Island in the distant east.

The fare is quite Western, with pizza, hamburgers, curry, gratin, salad, omelettes and pasta dotting the fold-over menu. Prices range at lunchtime, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., between 1,000 and 1,300 yen (\$10 to \$13). Dinner courses, 5 to 11 p.m., are a bit more pricey, between 2,500 and 3,000 yen (\$25 to \$30), with appetizers ranging from fried potatoes to fried calamari and even a plate of 20 shrimp (undoubtedly for multiple patrons) going for 2,300 yen (\$23).

The customer demographic is equal parts Japanese and foreigners, and each has one thing in common: "They are all very friendly," said Ogata. Patrons in kind told me that Kenichi and Momo treat them as if they were guests in their home, rather than run-of-the-mill customers.

Patrons may pay in either dollars or yen at current exchange rates. Exit Cafe doesn't accept credit cards at the moment, but will start doing so in August, Ogata said.

Smoking is not allowed, and customers may not bring their own bottles.

ornaue.dave@stripes.com



Exit Cafe proprietor Kenichi Ogata of Funabashi, Chiba Prefecture.

## EXIT CAFE OKINAWA

**Address:** 1-9-28 Akebono, Ishikawa, Uruma, Okinawa, 904-1107.

### Getting there:

**From points south:** Take 329 north going toward Central Ishikawa (don't take the Ishikawa Bypass). Turn right at the intersection for Route 75. Turn left at first stoplight and go about 2 kilometers and look for the Exit Cafe signs on your left as the road rises.

**From Camp Courtney:** Go left out of commissary gate, go right out of main gate onto 75 west. At the second stoplight with the golf driving range caddy-corner right, turn right and go about 2 kilometers and look for the Exit Cafe signs on

the left as the road rises. **From points north:** Take 329 south and go to intersection with rotary overhead walkway. Go left into Central Ishikawa. Turn left at the intersection with the Family Mart on the left and the Lawson on the right. Turn right at the first T-intersection, then left at the next T-intersection. Go up the rise, down and then up again and look for the Exit Cafe signs on your right.

**Information:** Telephone 098-989-9966; mobile 080-3444-4531. The eatery has a Facebook page in Japanese; use translation links. Email [gramskennemo@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:gramskennemo@yahoo.co.jp).

— Dave Ornaue



A Japanese family mulls the Exit Cafe Okinawa's menu choices.

# Happy July 4th From Zama ITT

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## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Pacific

5  
free  
things  
to do in

## TOKYO

BY MARI YAMAGUCHI  
The Associated Press

**F**inding free things in Tokyo, one of the world's most expensive cities, might sound impossible.

Surprisingly, the city offers a wide range of museums, parks, historical sites and cultural activities for free — good news for budget travelers who want to see a lot and still enjoy expensive sushi.

## Get hooked on a fish market

Sprawling Tsukiji fish market — the world's biggest — is where those beautiful slices of tuna on your sushi come from. To witness the famous tuna auctions, be there by 5 a.m. to have a shot at the first 120 viewing slots.

If that's too early, you can still spend hours roaming a maze of narrow alleyways, but watch out for the motorized carts whizzing around with ice troughs filled with fish. Nearly 2,000 tons of fish of all kinds are traded daily here, as well as every other kind of seafood imaginable.

It's still wise to get there early in the morning, as everything shuts down in the early afternoon. There are a number of sushi shops within and around the market, as well as a fun shopping area selling products ranging from dried fruits to razor-sharp knives. Find the market at [jnto.go.jp/eng/location/regional/tokyo/tsukiji.html](http://jnto.go.jp/eng/location/regional/tokyo/tsukiji.html).



The walkway of the Rainbow Bridge in Tokyo offers panoramic views of the waterfront area.

## Walk to Odaiba Beach

Take a scenic walk over the Rainbow Bridge to the reclaimed island of Odaiba out in the Tokyo Bay for a picnic, sunbathing on a manmade beach or even a jog.

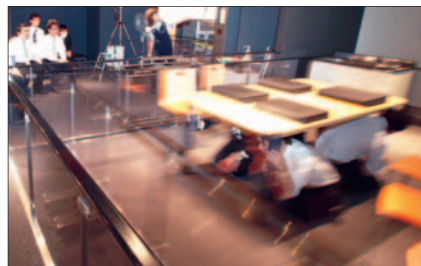
The walk is just a bit more than half a mile of a single-span suspension bridge, and takes less than an hour one way.

A walk on the north side of the bridge provides the panoramic view of Tokyo's skyline, with the world's second-tallest structure, Tokyo SkyTree, rising into the sky like a needle. The south side overlooks Daiba Park and a scale

copy of the Statue of Liberty, as well as Shinagawa and Oi piers.

You get to see both on a round trip, but you have the option of taking the Yurikamome (Seagull) elevated railway system one way.

Daiba Park, which sticks out right underneath the Rainbow Bridge, used to be a site of cannon batteries built in the late 1850s to protect Tokyo from potential foreign attacks following the arrival of an American fleet led by Commodore Matthew Perry in 1853. It was not used and was later turned into a park.



Visitors take refuge under a table as they experience a simulated tremor at the Ikebukuro Disaster Prevention Center in Tokyo.

## Shake things up in a fake quake

Japan is one of the most earthquake-prone countries in the world. A public facility called the Ikebukuro Disaster Prevention Center, run by the Tokyo Fire Department, offers a uniquely Japanese experience that can be educational, a bit scary but also fun. Visitors can experience a temblor — as violent as

the March 2011 disaster that struck northern Japan — in a living room set. The center also provides basic instruction in how to survive a quake, use a fire extinguisher and survive intense smoke from a fire.

Online: [gotokyo.org/en/kanko/toshima/education/64.html](http://gotokyo.org/en/kanko/toshima/education/64.html)

## Tour Japan's Capitol Hill

Japan's Parliament, or the National Diet, as it is officially known, stands on a site once occupied by feudal lords and is now home to Japan's legislative headquarters. Completed in 1936, the building with a landmark pyramid-shaped dome houses the two chambers — the more powerful House of Representatives (Lower House) and the House of Councillors (Upper House).

The Upper House provides

a free hourlong tour when the House is not in session. The tour, which starts on the hour between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., includes the public gallery, the emperor's room and central hall, with the floor decorated with an intricate mosaic design using 1 million pieces of tiles and mural paintings depicting the four seasons.

Find information about the tour at [gaingin.go.jp/eng/info/dbt](http://gaingin.go.jp/eng/info/dbt).



AP photos

Shinto priests lead a couple under a parasol during a traditional wedding ceremony at Meiji Jingu Shrine.

## Visit a sacred place

Meiji Jingu Shrine is a piece of old Tokyo not to be missed. Boasting the nation's largest wooden torii gate, the shrine was built more than 90 years ago to commemorate Emperor Meiji, who reigned as Japan opened to the rest of the world after centuries of isolation.

The great-grandfather of currently reigning

Emperor Akihito also was a symbol of Japan's modernization and militarization in the late 19th and 20th centuries. Lucky visitors might catch a solemn Shinto-style wedding procession. The gardens, lily ponds and shrine grounds are a pleasant respite from the noisy city center.

Online: [meijingu.or.jp/english](http://meijingu.or.jp/english)

## WEEKEND: MUSIC

## NEW ALBUMS



ANDREA BEHREND/Courtesy of Old Crow Medicine Show

## OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW



REMEDY

## Old Crow Medicine Show

Remedy (ATO)

"We're talking happiness here," banjo wiz Critter Fuqua says as an aside a few minutes into "Remedy," which neatly sums up the latest album from Old Crow Medicine Show. Lickety-split tempos and kitchen-sink arrangements make for a set that's foot-stomping, thigh-slapping and grin-inducing.

The string band's wide range of influences ensures plenty of variety. "Brave Boys" recalls the Fugues, "Doc's Day" is hillbilly blues, and a composing collaboration with Bob Dylan results in "Sweet Amarillo," which would fit on "The Basement Tapes."

All are terrific, as are songs about a fallen vet, hating on haters and a certain creek one goes up without a paddle. The hilarious "Brushy Mountain Conjugal

Trailer" is a celebration of liberation, while "The Warden" offers a darker perspective on prison in lovely five-part harmony.

Five-part is nothing — all seven band members sing on a couple of tunes, and the result is a glorious chorus. In fact, from start to finish, "Remedy" creates a mighty roar.

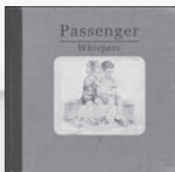
— Steven Wine  
The Associated Press

## Passenger

Whispers (Black Crow/Nettwerk)

**M**ike Rosenberg, the man behind the inescapable breakup ballad "Let Her Go," is out with a new album that is full of songs that sounds an awful lot like his breakthrough pop hit.

Rosenberg, the British singer-songwriter who performs under the moniker Passenger, has a wonderfully natural voice, and his touching guitar approach remains adorable. But there



are no gems on "Whispers," and his fifth solo album comes off as little more than a rote display of comfort-level songwriting. "Coins in a Fountain"

challenges the senses right off the bat, opting for an odd blend of world-beat-styled percussion and rhythm. The song is full of painfully corny similes dished out in rapid-fire succession. And on the title track, Rosenberg longs for bits of solitude in a world filled with too much of, well, everything. But the poignant message is buried under layer after layer of instruments.

Rosenberg, 30, reached international success when his 2012 song "Let Her Go" became a surprise hit late last year, peaking at No.

5 in America and selling close to 4 million tracks. His new album, though, seems to borrow too much from what made him a recognizable name, and that's unfortunate.

The singer shines on the single "Heart's on Fire." It's a heart-wrenching song about a love torn apart and one person's patience in hoping it will return. Rosenberg sings like he's been there — and means every word.

— Ron Harris  
The Associated Press



JANIS SAGE/Courtesy of Nettwerk Music Group

## WEEKEND: MUSIC

By MIKAEL WOOD  
Los Angeles Times

Ed Sheeran's new album grew out of a question: What if James Taylor made a club record? That's what the young British singer-songwriter said Pharrell Williams asked while the two were working on "Sing," the lead single from Sheeran's "x." Then, Sheeran recalled, the rainmaking pop producer made a prediction: "People would go nuts for it."

It's an unlikely recipe for success for Sheeran, who slowly built a devoted fan base in this country with plain-spoken, modestly scaled folk songs like "The A Team." A sympathetic ballad about a troubled woman, the tune sold more than 2 million downloads and was nominated for a Grammy Award for song of the year.

Nuts, though, is precisely what people have gone for "Sing," Sheeran's biggest hit to date and a track he said was modeled on the crackling soul-funk sound of Justin Timberlake's solo debut, "Justified." Last month, the singer performed the song for an enthusiastic crowd at the Hollywood Bowl, where he headlined a concert presented by L.A.'s 104.3 MYfm. And the single helped drive "x" to No. 1 on the iTunes chart as soon as the album was released on June 23.

The anticipated follow-up to Sheeran's 2011 debut, "x" (Atlantic Records), "plus" and "multiplying," "x" reflects that rise to pop stardom, which also included a stint opening arena gigs for his friend Taylor Swift. Beyond "Sing," the album features glossy collaborations with other top 40 veterans such as Rick Rubin and Benny Blanco, known for their work with Jay Z and Katy Perry. But "x" also seeks to preserve the thoughtful-misfit vibe that won Sheeran his most ardent admirers.

"I have weird tattoos and weird hair — I'm a weird person," he said backstage at the Bowl. Dressed in jeans and a characteristically rumpled shirt, Sheeran, 23, was curled up on a small sofa in a dressing room crammed with the luggage of a jet-setting musician. "And I don't think I've lost that yet."

To the extent that some of Sheeran's new songs address subjects not typically found on pop radio — or address familiar ones with an uncommon intimacy — he's right. In "Afire Love," the singer recounts his grandfather's descent into what sounds like Alzheimer's disease, while "The Man" worries about the temptations that accompany celebrity status.

But not everything is so dark. Like "+," "x" comes loaded with tenderly phrased love songs such as the hushed "Tenerife Sea" and "Thinking Out Loud," which pairs a lyric about a steadfast romance — "When my hands don't play the strings the same way/I know you will still love me the same" — with a classic-sounding soul-rock arrangement.

As graceful as they are cleverly constructed, these tunes would've fit on the earlier album, which Sheeran said was more or less how he thought "x" would turn out before he began working on it. "But then you start getting calls from people like Rick Rubin and Pharrell Williams," he said, "and you start thinking, 'Do I stick with what I know, or do I take these opportunities?'"

He described the studio experience as one of trial and error, recalling a session with Williams where he turned down the producer's first nine ideas. Finally, he allowed Williams (who oversaw much of Timberlake's "Justified") to persuade him to try writing over the beat that became "Sing."

"He was like, 'People enjoy listening to your music, but you don't have anything that makes them want to dance,'" Sheeran said. "I figured there wasn't any harm in trying it."

Though "x" expands his sound considerably, Sheeran insisted he has no immediate plans to ramp up his live show, which consists of him, his acoustic guitar and a bank of looping pedals he operates with his feet. The stripped-down presentation distinguishes him from flashier acts, he reasoned, and it helps keeps costs down.

He's equally forthright about his ambition for the new album and its world tour: "I'm on the right trajectory," he said, adding that stadium shows like those Swift plays are "definitely the next step."

**Released on June 23, 'x' is the second studio album by British singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran.**

Courtesy of Atlantic Records



Ed Sheeran

"x" (Atlantic Records)

Armed with only his acoustic guitar and his charming personality, Sheeran quickly established himself as an arena-filler with his brutally honest tales like "The A Team."

On his follow-up, "x," Sheeran manages a remarkably difficult task — broadening his sound without losing the immediacy of his raw, intimate stories.

Astonishingly, superstar Sheeran is still willing to wear his heart on his sleeve. (No other arena headliner is likely to be as revealing as Sheeran is in "I'm a Mess" — except maybe his BFF Taylor Swift.) But he's also ready to hide it away for a bit.

The Pharrell-produced "Sing," with its Justin Timberlake-influenced falsettos and unshakable groove, is a musical shock from Sheeran. But he makes it work because, at his core, Young Ed is a storyteller, and "Sing" is a great story.

"The Man" is an even better one, as Sheeran raps about how "success is nothing if you have no one there left to share it with" and then sings his own hook of "I don't love you, baby." His worries about falling into a booze-and-weed-fueled spiral that leads him to "die from a thrill" at 27 is both eloquent and poignant.

However, Sheeran's strength is still the acoustic guitar ballad, though "One" and "Tenerife Sea" show how he has improved in structuring those songs as well. And, as powerful a pop statement as "Sing" is for Sheeran, it's likely that the lovely "Thinking Out Loud" will outlast it.

— Glenn Gamboa  
Newsday



Pop  
stardom's  
thoughtful  
misfit  
Ed Sheeran wears heart on his  
wrinkled sleeve on new album, 'x'





## WEEKEND: ENTERTAINMENT



Syfy

Kyra Zagorsky is Dr. Julia Walker on the TV series "Helix." The first season of the thriller is now available on DVD.

## NEW ON DVD

**"Helix: The Complete First Season":**

The cable series from Ronald D. Moore is a gripping thriller about a team of scientists on an Arctic expedition to research a viral outbreak. The search for answers proves as deadly as the virus. Billy Campbell and Kyra Zagorsky turn in first-rate performances. The set includes all 13 episodes of the cable series, plus cast and crew commentaries, deleted scenes and four featurettes. "Dissecting the Characters" studies the dynamic interpersonal relationships that fuel the series. "The Art of Isolation" explores the approach to creating a realistic Arctic research center. "The Future of Disease" examines advancements in the field of medicine, while "Ronald D. Moore: The Outlier of Science Fiction" features Moore's perspective on creating the new series.

**"Lovejoy, Series 1":** In recent years, Golden Globe winner Ian McShane has become known for playing dark and crusty characters with roles in "Deadwood" and "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides." Before he went down the dark paths, McShane played the likable Lovejoy in this BBC mystery series that aired on A&E in the early 1990s. Lovejoy is to antiquies dealing as Jessica Fletcher is to mystery writing. Along with his gift for being able to spot real and fake art treasures, Lovejoy also has a skill for solving mysteries. These puzzles often take place in a world filled with aristocrats, con men and criminals. The set includes 10 episodes.

**"Twilight Zone: Essential Episodes (55th Anniversary Collection)":** It would make more sense to own the entire collection of "Twilight Zone" episodes because each is so good. But if you want to own only the best of the series, this collection includes those episodes: "Time Enough at Last," "The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street," "To Serve Man" and "Nightmare at 20,000 Feet." Other episodes in the set include: "Walking Distance," "The Hitch-Hiker," "The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street," "A Stop at Willoughby," "The After Hours" and "The Midnight Sun."

Also new on DVD:

**"Vinyl":** Based on Mike Peters' rock 'n' roll hoax of 2004.

**"Afflicted":** A journey around the world takes a horrifying turn.

**"The Lunchbox":** Two lonely people in India have their mail mixed up.

**"Operation Petticoat":** The 1950s film from director Blake Edwards is being re-released.

**"Anna Karenina":** BBC's 10-episode version of Leo Tolstoy's masterpiece.

**"Hinterland, Series 1":** Welsh detective drama.

**"A Young Doctor's Notebook: Season One":** Jon Hamm and Daniel Radcliffe star in the comedy based on Mikhail Bulgakov's writing.

**"No Vacancy":** A stop at a roadside motel proves deadly.

— Rick Bentley/The Fresno Bee

# Still unfolding

## Piper Perabo loves the growth of her character on TV series 'Covert Affairs'

BY RICK BENTLEY  
The Fresno Bee

Television was a relatively new world for Piper Perabo when she signed on to star in the USA Network series "Covert Affairs" in 2010. Except for a few TV guest spots, most of the Dallas native's work had been in movies, ranging from the forgettable "The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle" to the unforgettable "Coyote Ugly."

Her inexperience in TV worked in her favor when she was cast as Annie Walker, a raw new CIA recruit. Just as Walker depended heavily on veteran CIA agents Arthur Campbell and Auggie Anderson to learn the ropes, Perabo turned to the actors behind those roles — Peter Gallagher and Christopher Gorham — for guidance.

"Both of them would whisper in my ear what was going to happen. Just like Annie, I was in way over my head. It works much faster than film. So I spent a lot of the first season just getting my footing," Perabo said during a break from filming.

She not only found her footing, but she became a marathon runner as the show has now reached its fifth season. After the fourth season, in which Walker faked her death to go on a rogue mission to bring down a major threat, the new episodes will look at Walker trying to return to the life she had before.

It won't come easy.

"Annie thinks that she can reboot her life — that things with Auggie and her can go back and she can go back

to a more familiar style of operating. The problem is she can't rewrap that Christmas present once it's open," Perabo said. "But I think that's one of the reasons this show has stayed this interesting. The writers have let Annie evolve each season."

"We went from a mission of the week in the first season to an agent with five years of experience who is always evolving. Now, Annie has a superhero quality that at times borders on fantasy because she's so good."

One of the big evolutions has been Walker's relationship with Gorham's character. From the first day, Walker and Anderson showed the kind of chemistry that let viewers know they would one day go beyond just being co-workers. When their relationship finally blossomed, major hurdles — like the return of Anderson's wife — got in the way.

Perabo enjoys working on the show because the cast is a supportive family where no big egos get in the way. She particularly enjoys working with Gorham because he's not only a talented actor and director, but he's "one of the nicest guys on the planet."

Nice guys and a family atmosphere are vital in a show like "Covert Affairs," especially when the show films in locations such as Sri

Lanka, Istanbul, Paris, London, Berlin and Caracas. The location shoots often end up like guerrilla filming with a small crew, using only natural light and on a very tight budget.

One of Perabo's favorite scenes in the show's four-season run was shot in Santa Domingo — subbing for Cuba — where there was only minutes left of daylight to set up and shoot the scene. She feels like the expedience of shooting helped get across the pressure and emptiness of what was going on with her character.

With four seasons of the show behind her, Perabo's become a TV veteran. She says that it's weird now to work on a feature film because they seem to shoot so slowly.

"You go on a movie set and it takes 2½ hours to get the lights set. I can shoot three scenes of the show in that amount of time," Perabo said with a laugh.

“But I think that’s one of the reasons [‘Covert Affairs’] has stayed this interesting. The writers have let Annie evolve each season.”

Piper Perabo is Annie Walker on "Covert Affairs," which airs Saturdays on AFN-Spectrum.

USA Network



## WEEKEND: HEALTH &amp; FITNESS

Despite better labeling,

# Sunscreen is often misused

By DEBBIE CARLSON  
Chicago Tribune

**S**ummertime means being outside, whether it's at the beach, a street festival or just in the backyard.

As good as it might feel to soak up the sun, doctors warn that people need to take more seriously their use of sunscreen to avoid premature aging or worse — skin cancer.

It's getting a little easier to do that. In 2012, new rules from the Food and Drug Administration took effect governing label information regarding sunscreen. Included in the new rules are defining the term "broad spectrum," which means a sunscreen offers protection from both ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB) rays in proportional amounts. Before, sunscreens did not address UVA radiation, which causes skin cancer and early aging but not necessarily the telltale signs of sunburn.

Additionally, claims such as "water-proof," "sweatproof" or "sunblock" are no longer allowed.

Sonya Lunder, senior analyst at the Environmental Working Group, said despite greater awareness of the damage sun can do and products with higher sun protection factors (SPF), melanoma rates are still increasing. Melanoma is one of the most deadly forms of skin cancer.

"No one really knows why," she said. "We think mismarketing of sunscreen really contributes to that problem by giving consumers the idea that they can rely on sunscreen and be out all day safely in the sun. People misuse sunscreen and get more sunburns, not fewer."

Dermatologists said there's a lot of sunscreen misuse, and the biggest problem is most people don't use enough.

"Nobody uses enough, ever, ever, ever. You're supposed to use one ounce, which is as much as a shot glass to cover all of your exposed body areas," said Dr. Jason Reichenberg, vice chair at the University of Texas Southwestern at Austin department of dermatology.

Apply it at least 15 minutes before going

out, and that amount needs to be reapplied every two hours — more often if the person is sweating a lot or swimming, he said.

Wear sunscreen on a cloudy day too. "You can still get a bad sunburn on a cloudy day as the ultraviolet rays still pass through," said Dr. Elizabeth Martin, a dermatologist with Pure Dermatology & Aesthetics, in Hoover, Ala.

Being "sun smart" is just as important as sunscreen use, Martin and Reichenberg said. That includes trying to avoid the sun between the hottest time of the day, which is usually between

10 a.m. and 2 p.m., wearing a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses and preferably long pants and long-sleeved shirts, they said.

And forgoing sunscreen to get vitamin D exposure from the sun is a bad idea, the dermatologists stressed.

Instead, take a supplement or eat foods rich in vitamin D like fatty fish, or drink fortified orange juice.

And never, ever go to a tanning booth. "It's a myth to get a 'base tan,'" Martin said. "All you do is damage the skin."

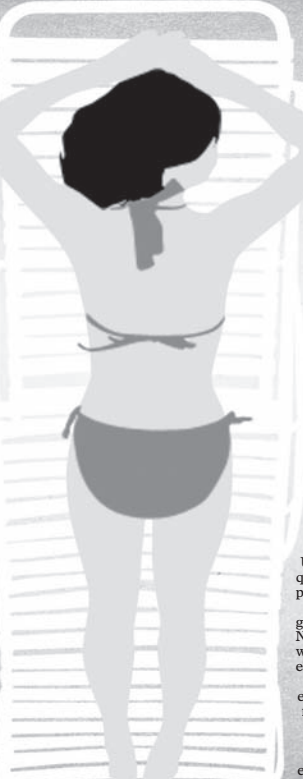
For over-the-counter sunscreens, the dermatologists recommend buying a broad spectrum with an SPF of at least 30. Additionally, the dermatologists and Lunder say the mineral-based sunscreens, those with zinc oxide and/or titanium dioxide, offer the best coverage.

For chemical-based sunscreens, a key ingredient is avobenzone, which is one of the best UV filters. However, Lunder said it breaks down quickly, which is why sunscreen needs to be reapplied.

Some over-the-counter brands the dermatologists recommend are Aveeno, CeraVe, Cetaphil and Neutrogena. The Environmental Working Group's website has a searchable database based on different types of sunscreens.

Although spray sunscreens are popular with parents, the experts frown on these because it's difficult to tell if the sunscreen was properly applied, not to mention the chance of inhaling the spray.

Sunscreens can be used the next year, but, "if you have a bottle left from last year, you didn't use enough," Martin said.



The Seattle Times Illustration

## Aggressive allergies: When a rose might not smell so sweet

By POHLA SMITH  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**I**s it possible that there are more chemicals being used in perfumes and sprays that are hurting more people than 10 or 20 years ago? "That is definitely accurate," said Dr. Merritt Fajt, an allergist at the University of Pittsburgh Asthma Institute at UP Medical Center and an assistant professor of medicine at the school.

"One reason that fragrant sensitivities are on the rise is that the use of fragrances is becoming a lot more prominent in this world, and now there are about 500 different fragrances and even more if you combine the different fragrances."

Allergy Health Network allergist Dr. Deborah Gentile agreed that there are now "four or five hundred types of these chemicals." These newer chemicals are used in fragrances, perfume and air fresheners.

"Some of these chemicals may cause

breathing problems, irritation in the nose or chest, headaches, stomach aches," Gentile added. "You can treat them, using allergy medications like antihistamines."

Liz Sandhagen, 48, of Whitehall, Pa., a patient of Gentile's partner, Dr. David Skoner, said she has a list of allergens that includes household cleaners, scented candles, perfume and smoke.

"I don't go places where there might be smoke, and nobody comes to the house and smokes. There are no perfumes or colognes in our house either," she said.

The growing popularity of fragrances has caused at least one person to have a terrible allergic reaction that has no treatment available yet. He's Brandon Silk, 16, of Bethlehem, Pa. He has been terribly allergic to the Axe body spray others his age have been wearing since he was in the fifth grade.

"One day (in the fifth grade) he went into anaphylactic shock," said his mother, Rosa, who wrote a story to raise awareness about his problem. "He stayed for

days in the hospital as doctors tried to figure out what was the cause. ... They came to the conclusion that it was something airborne that he must have been exposed to."

Eventually he came home from the hospital, but the terrible problem continued. "Every time he went to school he was sick with headaches, trouble breathing, welts on his face and arms, blurred vision, stomach pains to the point where he had to be homebound for weeks at a time before he could go back to school."

The physicians never were able to conclude what was causing Brandon's symptoms, but he figured it out himself. He walked into a school hall, felt the familiar allergic reaction starting and at the same time recognized a scent. It was Axe body spray.

In a recent interview with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Brandon's mother said that one doctor got the list of Axe's fragrance ingredients. But his work was of no help. That doctor "indicated there

is no testing for the chemicals," she said. She said she was not given the list, that the doctor was not allowed to pass it along because Axe's content is considered proprietary information, or a trade secret.

Brandon's case is far more difficult than even the most highly allergic patients, said UPM's Fajt, who has not seen the young man as a patient.

"The majority of patients we see with a true fragrance or perfume allergy get a dermatitis skin rash," she said. "I would say that (Brandon) appears to be an extremely unique case."

Fajt added, "The new types of allergies are difficult to diagnose objectively because our traditional tests for allergies focus on environmental allergens — trees, grasses — so the traditional tests, blood or skin, have been developed to detect those type of agents. For a dermatitis rash that can result from a perfume sensitivity, skin testing — known as patch testing — can be done. But they take up to three days to get results."



## WEEKEND: FAMILY



By ANGELA HILL  
Oakland Tribune

**G**room-to-be Conor Healy has what he calls an "expansive" definition of something blue.

"It all started because I said I wanted blue ties. But it was a lot harder than I thought to get a certain shade of light blue," says the San Ramon, Calif., banker, who has been eagerly engaged in every organizational aspect of his July wedding.

His fiancée, Heather Vilhauer, who fortunately likes the hue, too, because it will match her groom's eyes, was amazed at his highly specific azure ambitions, taking him through multiple floors of Britex Fabrics in San Francisco to find the perfect shade. It was a decision that would naturally affect the color of the dresses for the seven bridesmaids, two junior bridesmaids and three flower girls, not to mention the table linens and decorations for their event.

"It kind of dominoed," he says, "so I got teased for therefore having chosen the colors and the flowers."

Indeed, such vital decisions usually are considered the bride's domain. Yet as relationships evolve and more couples pay for their own celebrations, the notion of the "Bride's Day" may be fading away into the figurative photo album of the past. Now, instead of merely getting fitted for the tux and just plain showing up on time, more grooms are helping choose the cake, the location, the music and more.

Many brides think it's a turn for the better, not worse. "It's fun that he's so excited," Vilhauer says. "We talk through all these decisions, and it helps it go a lot more smoothly."

Jolene Rae Harrington, of the "Here Comes The Guide" wedding-planning resource, says she's actually seen two major shifts in bridal decision-making.

"When I started 18 years ago, back when most parents were paying for weddings, the mother of the bride had a lot of influence," she says. "Then we started seeing working women showing their independence, and taking more control."

"Now, as relationships have evolved and both bride and groom are often contributing financially, wedding planners aren't dealing with the dynamic between the bride and mother or mother-in-law as much as a dynamic between the bride and groom."

Harrington has noticed a trend of grooms' engagement rings, and men are stepping up to the plate at bridal fairs, actually asking questions instead of grudgingly following their fiancées around to carry brochures and samples.

She even had one groom who wrapped the "Guide" book in pretty paper and gave it to his sweetie at Christmas to pop the big question. "Using a planning resource as a way of proposal? That's a pretty good sign he's gonna be involved," Harrington says.

Lisette Saavedra, who is marrying her best friend and "best thumb-war opponent," Anthony Spizuoco, in mid-July, says the shift toward mutual responsibilities could be a reflection of the way we operate in society today.

"Women are having increasingly important career lives, relationships are partnerships, and it's increasingly important to have a partner to meet you halfway on this aspect, too," says Saavedra, who works in property management. The San Francisco pair will celebrate their union with a barn dance and feast on a farm near Portland, Ore. They realized early on they needed to divvy up the tasks according to individual talents.

"Lisette is great at decorating and designing and working out the vision of the whole thing," Spizuoco says. "I have no concern about flowers, the colors. So I chose to work on the invites, I designed the website — my first time, which was excruciating, by the way."

They're also viewing the event as a way to express their own identities rather than follow a cookie-cutter scenario. A friend is officiating, they'll have a buffet-style cocktail dinner, and the day before the wedding they'll get the keys to the barn to go in and decorate. "Everyone in our wedding party is gonna get in there and work on it; everyone's involved," Saavedra says. "I didn't want it to be my thing or his thing. We're basically throwing an epic party for our family and friends."

## SPOUSE CALLS

## Warrior's anthem comes from heart

**T**he evening event was studded with stars. Most were twinkling overhead, but quite a few were shining on epaulets among the attendees. Diamonds glittered as well, on rings, tiepins and brooches.

Music was provided in the open air by "The President's Own," the United States Marine Band. The American flag entered with fanfare to the tune of George M. Cohen's "You're a Grand Old Flag," as the color guard marched across the green grass. When the phalanx reached the center of the parade ground, there was a brief silence before the band began to play the national anthem.

Civilian hands went to hearts. Those in uniform were already at attention, thumbs to seams, eyes on the flag. It was not long past the twilight's last gleaming when the opening bars rose into the air, overpowering the background noises of local traffic and a few cicadas. Familiar notes lauded a familiar sight, the star-spangled banner wafting in the breeze.

Amid the sound of brass, woodwinds and percussion, an awareness dawned on some of the listeners. A voice was singing softly and tunelessly, blending so completely with the music that the words were not noticeable at first. No performer stood at a microphone. The voice was not part of the program, nor was it simply an ambitious audience member showing off an underappreciated talent.

The voice was not boisterous or pretentious, but gentle, audible only to those standing within a few feet of the singer. Like a song on an old-fashioned radio getting warmed up, the words became clearer as listening ears tuned in, just in time to hear, "... the rockets' red glare/ the bombs bursting in air ..."

A few heads turned slightly, surely, as listeners tried to find the source without disrespecting the flag or disturbing the singer. When they located him, perhaps it came as a surprise that he was in uniform. Singing along with the national anthem is not the way uniformed troops are expected to honor the flag.

But no one was about to silence him — not even those wearing the stars, though he was wearing stripes. They had all seen him earlier in the evening, and they knew he had borne the battle. His sacrifice was apparent by the medals on his chest and the evidence that his uniform did not hide. He moved a little stiffly, but walked without assistance. At first glance, he could have been any squared-away Marine, and he was, but the scars on his face told a deeper story.

It was his voice that sang, his scarred lips that moved on the words, "... gave proof through the night/that our flag was still ..."

He sang the words, in a voice that was clear but quiet, a voice that made listeners wonder if they heard the words or imagined them. But they were real, as real as his sacrifice.

The national anthem is a song about a perilous fight, of rockets, even of bombs and defensive ramparts. It's a song about battle, though most who sing it have never seen one. Maybe this Marine remembered a painful dawn after a dark night, a battle that embodied the words of the song. Who would deny him the privilege of singing about them? Who would deny his listeners the privilege of hearing a warrior sing about the battle, perhaps remembering friends he lost in it?

Some Americans might rave about recording artists who perform the national anthem at sporting events. Others might rant about the ones who forget the words. Whether they've properly memorized the song or not, few of those performers could understand its meaning like that Marine. It's the same for most Americans. We can sing it only because someone else has been willing to live it.

None of those voices could compete with one Marine singing, "Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave/o'er the land of the free/and the home of the brave."

Because of men and women like him, yes, it does.

Terri Barnes is a military wife and mother of three, and the author of "Spouse Calls: Messages From a Military Life." Contact her at spousescalls@aol.com or at stripes.com/go/spousecalls.



Terri Barnes

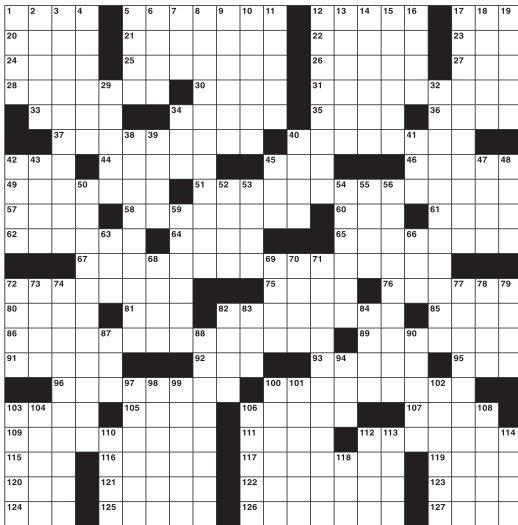
# WEEKEND: CROSSWORD AND COMICS

## NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

### DOWNRIGHT TRICKY! BY BYRON WALDEN/EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS
- 1 It may be cut by an uppercut
- 5 Drink cooler
- 12 Map feature
- 17 Nurse
- 20 "From Here to Eternity" setting
- 21 Stage-diving logic
- 22 More than willing
- 23 For
- 24 Stoker of fear?
- 25 Not flat or sharp
- 26 Lay
- 27 Politician with a like button?
- 28 Adorns
- 30 Minnesota player, familiarly
- 31 Microwaveable snack
- 33 Dress that drapes
- 34 Hall-of-\_\_\_
- 35 Highly desirable to Uncle Sam?
- 36 Wine-list heading
- 37 Competitor in some county fairs
- 40 Offer to buy unspecified stocks, say
- 42 Lean-meat source
- 44 Shortstop-turned-ESPN analyst
- 45 "Thanks a \_\_\_!"
- 46 Stylebook concern
- 49 Area with XY coordinates?
- 51 Routine checkup
- 57 Desire
- 58 Stay inactive over the summer
- 60 Paris street
- 61 Vend
- 62 Moderator of the first Obama/McCain and Obama/Romney debates
- 64 Early Chinese dynasty
- 65 Graph's x-coordinate
- 67 Statement after long deliberation
- 72 Relayed
- 75 Son of Aphrodite
- 76 Common pool or store posting
- 80 Word with house or boy
- 81 Type
- 82 "The Education of a Gopher" autobiographer
- 85 What might give you a big head?
- 86 Hollywood and Hollywood, e.g.
- 89 Material in the hats of Buckingham Palace guards
- 91 Byes
- 92 Litter member
- 93 Do-nothing
- 95 Grp. battling consumer fraud
- 96 1980s video game spinoff
- 100 Drag staple
- 103 Et \_\_\_
- 105 Surf sound
- 106 Ones trapped in boxes of their own making?
- 107 Connecticut Ivy chain
- 109 Southern grocery
- 111 Harry Potter mark
- 112 Downloader's directive
- 115 Agents' org.
- 116 Black \_\_\_
- 117 Post-Weimar period
- 119 Terrace-farming pioneers
- 120 Mantel piece
- 121 "Walk Away \_\_\_" (1966 hit)
- 122 "Absolutely Fabulous," e.g.
- 123 "JAG" spinoff
- 124 Fail to keep up
- 125 Beyond piqued
- 126 Allow to continue exams
- 15 Part of a hockey goalie's equipment
- 16 "Cogito, \_\_\_ sum"
- 17 Ray-finned fishes of the Southwest U.S.
- 18 Ticked off
- 19 Versifiers
- 29 Health care giant with a Tree of Life logo
- 32 Major African humanitarian concern of the 2000s
- 34 Hollywood setting; Abbr.
- 38 Like the contents of many attics
- 39 Traitor Aldrich
- 40 Nastiness
- 41 Tour transport
- 42 Actor Jannings
- 43 Chess ending
- 45 '80s TV star who later pitched Snickers
- 47 Some square dancers
- 48 "\_\_\_ Enchanted" (2004 film)
- 50 1982 holiday country hit by Alabama
- 52 1960s pop singer
- 53 Tiny battery
- 54 Laud
- 55 LAX, O'Hare and others
- 56 "Of course!"
- 59 Grammy-nominated 1998 hit for Alanis Morissette
- 63 New Year's \_\_\_
- 66 Bill's partner
- 68 Jell-O maker
- 69 Actress Moore
- 70 Highland tongue
- 71 "Right away, boss"
- 72 Kaput

- DOWN
- 1 \_\_\_ salad
- 2 Proverbial speedsters
- 3 "That's what my Spidey sense told me"
- 4 Quince, e.g.
- 5 Reassuring reply
- 6 Reasons to say no
- 7 Subj. of a thought experiment
- 8 Lament about modern men
- 9 When computers work
- 10 Trade cross words
- 11 C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O
- 12 European coastal plant once thought to be an aphrodisiac
- 13 Pachelbel classic, familiarly
- 14 When Tatum O'Neal won her Oscar



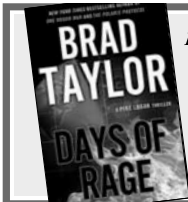
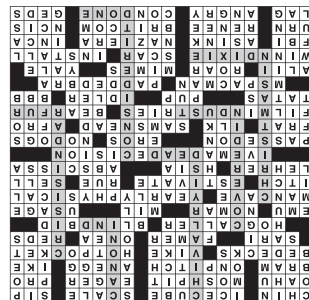
- 73 "Celeste Aida," for one
- 74 Enterprise for Morton
- 77 Bad way to be caught
- 78 Eats
- 79 Collect on the surface, in chemistry
- 82 Floor
- 83 Dadaism pioneer
- 84 Up to snuff
- 87 AOL, e.g., for short
- 88 Item for a houseguest
- 90 Fast-food chain with the Ultimate Angus sandwich
- 94 One who drills, fills and bills: Abbr.
- 97 Up
- 98 Directing a shell
- 99 Down Easter
- 100 Rogue
- 101 The \_\_\_ Mets
- 102 Half a star, maybe
- 103 Label for pans?
- 104 House entered near the autumnal equinox
- 106 "All In" network
- 108 Spanish hero whose 113-Down is represented enigmatically six times in this puzzle
- 110 \_\_\_ Torres, four-time Olympic swimming gold medalist
- 112 Press
- 113 Moniker
- 114 Colleen
- 118 Green: Prefix

## GUNSTON STREET



"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. Email him at [gunstonstreet@yahoo.com](mailto:gunstonstreet@yahoo.com), and visit [gunstonstreet.com](http://gunstonstreet.com).

## RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE



In this latest Pike Logan thriller, the Taskforce must stop their most devastating threat yet. Intent on embroiling the U.S. in a political quagmire, Russia passes a potential weapon of mass destruction to an extreme Islamic sect—and the thriller's heart-thumping suspense has only just begun.

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## FACES



THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY/AP

Keira Knightley, left, and Adam Levine star in the movie "Begin Again." Levine says his acting debut in the film "Begin Again" has inspired him to continue acting. Levine, who fronts the band Maroon 5, identified with the part — a young musician who strikes it big.

## Adam Levine makes movie debut in 'Begin Again'

BY JAKE COYLE  
The Associated Press

**A**dam Levine knows pop stars-turned-actors are greeted suspiciously. And he's hesitant to make any grandiose declarations about suddenly transforming into an actor. But he also can't help himself.

Following his movie debut in the recently released "Begin Again," the Maroon 5 frontman is exuberant about a potentially budding movie career.

"It really made me fall in love," said Levine about "Begin Again" in a recent interview. "It's the very beginning of something really cool."

The transition is unusually seamless for Levine in "Begin Again," a naturalistic indie about musicians in New York by "Once" director John Carney. Levine plays an aspiring musician, the boyfriend to a singer-songwriter played by Keira Knightley. But it's his breakthrough that's brought them to New York, and his fast-growing fame pulls the couple apart.

"I had been thought that before, maybe not the same version," says Levine of the tumult of sudden fame. "That's what connected

**'That's what connected me to this guy. I immediately understood exactly what needed to be done with this character just based on my life's experience.'**

Adam Levine  
on his 'Begin Again' character

me to this guy. I immediately understood exactly what needed to be done with this character just based on my life's experience."

The 35-year-old Levine grew up in Los Angeles, so acting in movies was, he says, always "somewhere in the back of my mind." Carney approached him about the film and Levine jumped at the chance, working for little pay.

"I knew that I would try doing it," he says. "Because of the other wonderful things that have happened in my life and my career, I'd been given the opportunity to try it. I thought to myself, 'Well, I'm going to try it. I'm not going to not try it.'"

Levine, of course, is familiar with working in front of the camera. Aside from music videos for Maroon 5 and a cameo on "30 Rock," he's been a judge on NBC's "The Voice" since 2011. He also played an arc as a newlywed vis-

iting an insane asylum on FX's "American Horror Story" in 2012.

"He's so confident and he's such a natural entertainer and he's very comfortable on camera because he does that show and he's made lots of music videos," says Knightley. "He kept claiming he didn't know what he was doing, but it looked like he knew exactly what he was doing to me."

Though "Begin Again" represents a more substantial shift into acting for Levine, he drew heavily from his day job.

In one of the film's most moving scenes, Levine performs the original song "Lost Stars" while Knightley's character looks on. The song, which Levine wrote with former New Radicals frontman Gregg Alexander, will be pushed for an Oscar by the film's distributor, The Weinstein Company.

## Old Crow Medicine Show teams with Bob Dylan again

BY KRISTIN M. HALL  
The Associated Press

For years, Ketch Secor of Old Crow Medicine Show has been thanking Bob Dylan from afar for "Wagon Wheel," the multiplatinum hit based on an unfinished Dylan song. The Americana band made it a fan favorite through their live shows over the past decade, and then Darius Rucker turned a cover into a No. 1 country song.

The reclusive master songwriter re-

sponded — in a way Secor never expected.

The lead singer of Old Crow, whose new album "Remedy" came out Tuesday, likens his relationship with Dylan to a kid dropping letters in a bottle and tossing them into the ocean seeking a pen pal on another continent.

"The bottle washed ashore on the beach in Malibu and Bob scrawled something into the bottle and he tossed it back into the Pacific and it made its way to Music City," Secor said.

That response was another scrap of a song and a question: Would Secor want to take a crack at it?

The snippet comes from the same Mexico writing sessions as the "Wagon Wheel" song fragment Secor would later embellish, originally recorded for Dylan's 1973 soundtrack for "Pat Garrett & Billy The Kid."

"I was working with about 26 seconds in which there's a lot of giggling in the background and it just sounds like a pretty high time down in Monterey, or Durango, or

wherever they are making this Western movie," Secor said.

From that came "Sweet Amarillo," a waltz about a cowboy's search for his lover. After sending Dylan's management a demo, they received a short suggestion to move the chorus up and switch out the harmonica for a fiddle. "The reason it sounds so catchy is because Bob said play the fiddle and get a good hook in your music," Secor said. "That's what a good catchy song does. I think Bob is rooting for it, too."

## Lohan sues over video game

The Associated Press

Lindsay Lohan is suing the makers of the "Grand Theft Auto" video games. The actress says the latest installment used her image and created a character based on her without her permission.

Lohan's lawsuit was filed Wednesday in a Manhattan, N.Y., court. "Grand Theft Auto V" game maker Take-Two Interactive Software Inc. and subsidiary Rockstar Games declined to comment.

"Grand Theft Auto V" was released in September.

Lohan's lawsuit says a character named Lacey Jonas is an "unequivocal" reference to the "Mean Girls" and "Freaky Friday" star.

### Other news

■ Singer Jewel and her husband are divorcing after a 16-year relationship. The 40-year-old writes in a letter posted on her website that she and Ty Murray want their separation "to be nothing less loving than the way we came together." A representative for the singer confirmed the news Wednesday. Jewel and Murray were married in 1993. They have a son.

■ Burt Reynolds, the actor

who once showed all, is now ready to tell all. G.P. Putnam's Sons announced Wednesday that Reynolds' memoir, "But Enough About Me," is set for release in fall 2015. The 78-year-old Reynolds promises in a statement to "set the record straight" on everything from his love affairs with Sally Field and Loni Anderson to his Cosmopolitan centerfold from 1972.

■ An actor best known from the 1960s sitcom "McHale's Navy" has died. Bob Hastings was 89. Allison Knowles says her grandfather died Monday in his Burbank, Calif., home after a lengthy battle with prostate cancer. Hastings won fans on "McHale's Navy" as Lt. Carpenter, a bumbling yes-man. Other memorable roles were on "All in the Family" and "General Hospital."

■ Walter Dean Myers, a bestselling and prolific children's author and tireless champion of literacy and education, has died. He was 76. Myers, a longtime resident of Jersey City, N.J., died Tuesday at Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan after a brief illness, publisher HarperCollins announced. He completed more than 100 books, his notable works including "Monster" and "Lockdown."

### Pop singer set for awards show

Ariana Grande will perform at the MTV Video Music Awards on Aug. 24, MTV announced Wednesday.

She is the first performer for the awards show, which will air live from the Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

Grande's current single, "Problem," has reached double platinum status and peaked at No. 2 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart.

The 20-year-old Grande will release her sophomore album, "My Everything," a day after the VMAs.

From The Associated Press





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## OPINION

## Hiring the veteran not the only step

By HARRY CROFT and SYDNEY SAVION

On the backdrop of a sky filled with colorful fireworks and streets crowded with animated parades celebrating the Fourth of July, what emerges in the minds of many is the deliberation and decision of our Founders to pen and defend the Declaration of Independence. That was pen-to-paper, and then the real work and battle had to begin to realize the landscape we now call the United States of America.

What comes to mind for others on the backdrop of commemorating July 4, 1776, an epic day in history, is the battle that rages on in Iraq. Veterans who have volunteered to fight, whether in the name of duty or honor, watch as nearly 12 years of grueling battle for groundbreaking democracy comes unraveled, seemingly in the blink of an eye. Now veterans are in the fog on the return on investment for their battle wounds and scars.

In many ways, companies face a similar story in their effort to hire and train veterans, only to see their investment unravel in the form of high veteran attrition and turnover. While hiring a veteran is patriotic, given the current unemployment rate, it's higher than their civilian counterparts, the Catch-22 is hiring has to be balanced with a business need.

According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the current trend among veterans is to change jobs twice within the first three years of civilian employment. Add to that attrition costs for a professional who quits averages \$125,000 for up to 18 months' salary. For hourly waged employees it averages a half-year's pay. This has left companies in the fog on what to do to

increase veteran satisfaction, productivity and retention.

It is widely known that the change from military to civilian life can prove quite challenging for many separating veterans. But oftentimes companies are unaware of what is necessary to onboard a veteran and retain him.

Simply put, individuals who separate or retire from the military and return to civilian life exchange structured society for an unstructured mainstream society. They face a major change in their life situation; therefore, veterans are confronted with learning to acclimate to a change in culture and a new beginning in life and work.

In addition to a change in employment status, from employed to unemployed or underemployed and underpaid, veterans are challenged with extraordinary differences in culture. This culture change presents them with mental and emotional struggles and, for many, that is coupled with a psychological struggle. This struggle is heightened for those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Even with the Department of Defense's new Veterans Transition Assistance Program, when a veteran returns to civilian culture he is wholly responsible for his own preservation and behavior. Veterans must learn to resocialize themselves and become fit for living in mainstream society. For companies, it only stands to reason that understanding the stark contrast between the two cultures can prove equally as daunting when attempting to hire, reintegrate and sustain veterans in the workplace.

By all accounts, veterans have the capacity — and should be able to effectively

retrain themselves — to operate in an environment other than that in which they were accustomed to being successful. For both veterans and employers, that outcome remains foggy at best.

That is exactly why coming into the light requires more than recruiting and hiring veterans. It requires effective onboarding and organizational development. In the interest of being a viable part of the solution to employing, retaining and celebrating America's veterans, companies need to develop an onboarding assimilation plan that gradually integrates veterans into the civilian work environment. Starting with Day One, the plan should focus on natural assimilation and inclusivity. Firms should adopt best practices such as establishing affinity groups, peer support and mentoring. That connects veterans with someone who can empathize with their concerns, while motivating and helping them adapt to and stay engaged in the work environment.

Firms also should customize the diversity and employee assistance programs to include veteran-specific education and support, and retain the services of a military-relations professional to facilitate ease of transition. The assimilation plan and its effective implementation are vital to veteran employment, sustainability and companies coming out of the fog and into the light of lower attrition, increased veteran satisfaction and productivity.

Harry Croft, a psychiatrist, has seen 7000 war veterans diagnosed with PTSD at the "11A Swifts Sit with My Back to The Wall: Managing Combat Stress and PTSD," Sydney Savion, a retired military officer, is an allied behavioral scientist and author of "Camouflage to Pinstripes: Learning to Thrive in Civilian Culture."

## Create a Department of Veterans Advocacy

By MARTIN SCHRAM

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

MEMO TO: Veterans Affairs Secretary-designate Robert A. McDonald

RE: The VA's crisis is even worse than you think

Your good news is that the White House, Congress and Department of Veterans Affairs are no longer in denial about the reality that things have gone terribly wrong in the VA hospitals. Indeed, all America finally knows the systemic shame of VA hospitals' treatment delays, faked records and coverups.

And apparently, the monstrous job of fixing the VA is yours. Republicans are praising your experience as Procter & Gamble's CEO. Your Senate confirmation seems assured.

But the publicly released summary of White House deputy chief of staff Rob Nabors' excellent tough-truth VA report to the president and me last month says VA hospitals, leaves one major concern: Your new bosses probably still haven't grasped the full breadth, depth and pervasiveness of all that was allowed to go so wrong, for so long, at the VA.

VA pension and benefits claims bureaucracies are failing our military veterans and their families. They are ineptly failing the backlogged VA hospitals are.

Pensions. Bill, a severely wounded World War II veteran, had a postwar career in the post office. When he died in January 2011, his widow, Diane, simultaneously sent the VA and U.S. Postal Service all the vital documents, requesting her share of both pensions as Bill's surviving spouse.

The USPS immediately calculated Diane's pension share and her first check ar-

rived when Bill's would have, in February. But half a year went by without a VA pension check. As her living expenses mounted, the VA asked for documents she'd already sent. I'd heard of Diane's plight, asked a VA official about it; Diane got a phone call from the VA the next day. Diane's first VA pension check arrived in August.

I asked a top VA official why the VA couldn't simply do what the USPS did for the widow. The official launched into a long explanation about VA lawyers and the need to determine if Bill died due to old war injuries, which would mean a larger pension. So I naturally asked: Couldn't the VA instantly pay her the base pension? And then pay her more, retroactively, if it proved to be a service injury death?

The VA official's eyes widened, he slapped his palm down on the conference table, then scribbled a note to himself. Yes, he said, that's a better way to do it. He's a good person; but his managerial mind has been shaped by the VA's cultural mindset. Changing that mindset is the new VA secretary's most urgent challenge.

Benefits. When VA claim adjudicators issue denials — as they often do — an appeals process begins. The appeals court remains some 60 percent of the time denies back to the adjudicators for reconsideration due to one mistake or another. And it all starts over again. The top level appeals court has ruled the denials of the VA adjudicators and next level board of appeals were right in a mere 24 percent of the cases that got to the court. No wonder the VA's benefits claim backlog was recently reported to be one million.

Hospitals. Here's a proposal — give veterans a Vet-Med card that works like a Medicare card, and pays for treatment

where service is best and waiting times are brief. Not all hospitals need to provide top-level treatment for all maladies. In cities, some hospitals send major cardiac and cancer cases to another hospital specializing in those problems.

At the start of the Obama presidency, I sought to persuade the new VA secretary, retired Gen. Eric Shinseki, to focus on the full scope of VA failings. I'd just written a book chronicling sad cases of VA delays and denials of benefits and treatment. But back then Shinseki was in denial about what the book — titled "Vets Under Siege: How America Deceives and Dishonors Those Who Fight Our Battles" — was warning.

Back then he didn't believe the subtitle. And especially, he probably didn't grasp the validity of my conclusion that an adversarial mindset had permeated the VA. Too many employees saw their jobs as assuring veterans didn't get benefits they didn't deserve. I urged that VA employees must see themselves first as veterans' advocates, tasked with what they'd earned. Nothing more, but surely nothing less.

Even in his last days on the job, Shinseki told Congress there were only a "limited" number of "isolated" cases where VA hospitals falsified delay records. Only in his last hours did the four-star general admit he'd been deceived by a "systemic ... overarching environment and culture" within the VA.

There is one way our new bold VA secretary can change the VA mindset — by changing the VA's name. Let all VA employees know, first and foremost, they now work for the Department of Veterans Advocacy.

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive.

## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

## Arnett again on point on war Aniston (Ala.) Star

If Baghdad is indeed becoming Saigon — a city overrun by opposition and violence after the departure of the U.S. military — Peter Arnett would know.

He intimately knows both places. Working for The Associated Press, Arnett won the Pulitzer Prize in 1966 for his reporting from Vietnam. In the spring of 1975, Arnett witnessed the calamity that ensued when U.S. personnel abandoned Saigon just as North Vietnamese forces were overtaking the city. In the 1990s, Arnett became a household name to a new generation of Americans following his blow-by-blow coverage of the first Gulf War on CNN.

Arnett, now retired as a foreign correspondent, wrote in Monday's Washington Post that a Saigon-like future "may be the fate that awaits Baghdad if the march of [the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant] continues." The Sunni insurgency has already captured much of Iraq's north (much as the Vietcong had) and is steadily pushing southward. If it reaches the city, what I saw unfold in Saigon nearly 40 years ago is probably a good proxy for what to expect."

The picture Arnett paints is one dripping in pessimism, and understandably so. The ISIL is a jihadist militant group that's systematically taking control of wide swaths of those nations. Bloodshed is ubiquitous, the death toll rising. President Barack Obama has sent military advisers and a few hundred troops to Baghdad to protect U.S. interests, including the embassy and its personnel.

Whatever unsteady peace brought through America's yearlong involvement in that Middle Eastern nation is rapidly dissolving.

Arnett admits that "crucial differences separate Vietnam and Iraq," most notably the existence of three groups — the Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds — who, as Arnett so bluntly puts it, "no longer wish to live with in the antiquated borders devised by European diplomats 100 years ago." Vietnam doesn't suffer from that internal struggle of religion and violence.

A smattering of U.S. troops can't glue together what's coming apart in Baghdad. Arnett's prediction of Iraq's future may be more proof of the Iraq War's undeniable folly.

## Ex-Im Bank's mission valuable The Miami Herald

Given the multitude of problems facing the United States, it's appalling to see prominent members of Congress focusing on the U.S. Export-Import Bank as a target of opportunity. Why has a useful government agency that works exactly as intended suddenly become a political football?

Relatively few Americans have heard of the Ex-Im Bank, or its purpose, but ever since creation under Franklin Roosevelt, the agency has been a critical force behind the success of American businesses competing in overseas markets.

Its role is twofold. It provides export credit insurance so that U.S. companies selling made-in-America goods abroad have protection against the risks of doing business overseas. And it provides financing for foreign buyers purchasing American-made goods. For obvious reasons, this is not a role that private banks are eager to play. The risks are deemed too great for a private institution, whereas a government agency has the clout and the means to act overseas.



CONOR RADNOVIC/AP

A crowd applauds Freedom Rider Charles Person as he walks toward the buses that will drive him and more than other 100 people to Richmond, Va., to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Rights Act on Wednesday in Washington.

Its services are not free. The agency charges fees and interest, like any other bank — and regularly produces an annual profit. Last year, it helped reduce the U.S. deficit by \$1 billion.

So why in the world would incoming House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., and other like-minded Republicans zero in on the Ex-Im Bank for extinction? The short answer is that they see it as an enabler of "crony capitalism," helping big businesses like Boeing, Caterpillar and GE that should not have to rely on the full faith and credit of the U.S. government to make a profit.

That, at best, is a weak argument. Then, too, there is the argument that the Ex-Im Bank does not so much create jobs as help to allocate them, that it chooses "winners and losers" in deciding where to lend assistance. Tell that to the more than 200,000-plus American workers who owed their jobs to bank-supported exports in the last fiscal year. ...

The agency's charter expires on Sept. 30. Destroying the Ex-Im Bank would amount to a form of unilateral disarmament in the contest over international trade. Surely lawmakers can stop their incessant feuding and ideological warfare long enough to renew its authority to stay in business before any American jobs are lost.

## No likes for Facebook tactics Los Angeles Times

Facebook is an extraordinary tool, but its pitfalls have become increasingly apparent. Users' personal information, interests and habits are all fair game for the company, which has little compunction about analyzing the data and selling them to advertisers. Now Facebook has gone beyond capitalism and into creepy. For a week in 2012, it seems, the company manipulated users' news feeds as part of a psychology experiment to see whether happier or sadder content led users to write happier or sadder posts. The result? Facebook appears to have altered people's emotional states without their awareness.

This was wrong on multiple levels. It was unethical for Facebook to conduct a psychological experiment without users' informed consent. And it was especially wrong to do so in a way that played with the emotions of its users. That's dangerous territory.

Facebook, which employs a secret algorithm to determine what users see on their news feeds, conducted its research by altering the feeds of some 700,000 users, increasing or decreasing the number of "positive" and "negative" messages they saw to study the "emotional contagion" of Facebook. The company, together with two academic researchers, published

the results last month in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. In the study, Facebook asserted that users had given informed consent, which is standard protocol in psychological research, when they agreed to the company's terms of service, which caution that users' data can be mined for analysis and research. But that's disingenuous. It's hard to believe that users who took the time to read Facebook's 13,000-word service agreements would have understood they were signing on to be lab rats.

In response to the outrage, the Facebook researcher who designed the study apologized for "any anxiety it caused." He added that the company will seek to improve its internal review practices for future research. Certainly Facebook needs to revisit its policies to ensure that its users are not unwitting participants in psychological research. If this research is so valuable, the company should seek true informed consent.

But Facebook also needs to address its cavalier attitude toward its users. This latest controversy sends a troubling message to users that their personal information, their online activities and now even their feelings are all data points to be analyzed and manipulated according to the whims of a giant corporate machine.

## Stop trips well before border Chicago Tribune

The desire of parents to give their children a safer, better life is leading mothers and fathers in the violence-racked Central American countries of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras to take terrible risks. By the thousands, they are turning over their kids — many of them teenagers but others as young as 4 — to smugglers, praying they'll get through Mexico and into the United States.

Once here, mainly in Texas, the kids — several hundred of them every day — are picked up by the U.S. Border Patrol and detained temporarily in military bases and other government facilities. Meanwhile, the Obama administration, Congress and immigration advocates debate what to do. These are children, alone in a foreign country, frightened and confused, now wards of a legal system ill-equipped to shelter minors.

America hasn't solved immigration reform, and it won't happen this year, leaving the overall system a mess.

Central Americans are taken into our overburdened immigration system, held for a time and then pushed out to family members or foster care to await a distantly scheduled immigration court hearing. Some of them appear at those hearings, maybe they don't.

This gives you an idea of both the state of the immigration system and the challenge presented by all these children. The overall system is already clogged with more than 360,000 cases, according to Syracuse University researchers.

The coyotes — smugglers, often connected to the drug trade — have a good story to tell: American immigration is letting children into the country these days. The sales pitch is based on lies and misinformation, including the misconception of a grace program available to some children who arrived in the U.S. in 2007 or earlier.

First, spread the word to Central America ... that there is no successful smuggling route into the U.S. There is only danger for children, followed by a traumatizing stay in a government holding center and then deportation. ...

Second: Ramp up special court proceedings, apart from the already overloaded immigration hearing system, to evaluate the children while they're still in custody. Some might merit asylum. And the judicial protocol would allow the U.S. to repatriate the vast majority to their home countries.

In other words: Ensure children are safe and comfortable, create a fair adjudication system and then promptly rule.

That's the only way to convince Latino parents there is no point to putting their children in the hands of smugglers.

## No small act for civil rights San Antonio Express-News

In 1964, with a stroke of a pen, President Lyndon B. Johnson did what should have been done long before: He did the right thing.

After two months of debate, including filibusters by Southern senators, Johnson on July 2 signed the legislation — legislation that is viewed, 50 years later, as the crowning achievement of the civil rights movement.

The bill, proposed by President John F. Kennedy, ended segregation in public places and banned discrimination in workplaces. It may have seemed tiny, that stroke of a pen, but it was preceded by equal measures of hatred and heroism, the heroism a direct result of the hatred. Men and women bled and died for the freedom that should have been a birthright.

Martin Luther King Jr., who would be assassinated four years later, led the fight, but he was joined by thousands of others throughout the nation, black and white, men and women, young and old. ...

Slavery, along with the genocide of the American Indian, is the gravest sin as a nation, but the abuse and terror did not stop when President Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves in 1865.

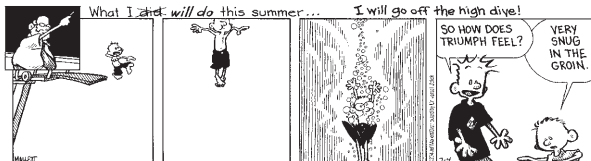
It continued with the beating and lynching of black Americans, sometimes by the Ku Klux Klan, sometimes by freelancing thugs, scoundrels with no association to the terrorist groups. And it continued with segregation in schools, on buses, even in churches, where God is colorblind.

We are a flawed country, but flawed countries recognize their imperfections, and they strive, sometimes against great odds, to correct the evil perpetrated on their own citizens. Nothing can undo the horror of slavery. And it continued the surface in its aftermath. But the Civil Rights Act built a significant fortress around minorities who had come to fear for their safety — and even their lives — thus assuring that some wrongs of the past would remain in the past. ...

The battle is not over. When politicians continue to deny wrongdoers the right to dilute minority voting. Not when courts continue to neuter the Voting Rights Act. Not when attempts to diversify universities and workplaces are seen as nothing more than quotas.

Make no mistake, however. With the Civil Rights Act of 1964, we took a hugely important step toward true freedom and equality. The bill made us a better nation.

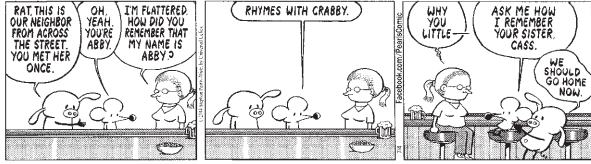
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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## ACROSS

- More, to Manuela
- Ag't's cut
- Capacitance measure
- Way back when
- "That feels good"
- Not just plump
- Skedaddled
- Ornate frame
- Masseur's workplace
- Massage
- Flavor enhancer
- Hair product
- Tammany Tiger creator
- Regret
- Tight-fitting hat
- Footballer Michael
- Winning
- Brunch entree
- Bat stat
- Hook henchman
- X-ray descendant
- Little branch
- Hit
- Commotion
- Upper lip adornment
- Distant
- Deck out
- Family
- Definite article
- Scope
- Harden
- Turf

## DOWN

- Swamp
- Open-mouthed
- Sub detector
- Prepare to travel
- Alter
- Afternoon hour
- Comestibles
- Dhabi
- Fun and games
- Blond shade
- Scottish river
- Body powder
- Vaudeville's Fanny
- Like a perfect game
- Expert
- Na Na
- One of the Kennedys
- Granite State sch.
- "Bones" setting
- Mensa numbers
- Piratic potato
- Compte
- Watson or Stone fixtures
- Floats lightly
- Gem State
- Wounded in the bulging
- Eyelid problem
- Superman's alter ego
- Scratch
- Man-mouse link
- Coffee shop vessel
- Succumb to gravity

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	O	D		S	P	A	M		S	A	I	L
A	W	E		I	O	N	A		A	P	S	E
D	E	M	O	C	R	A	T		M	E	L	T
		O	R	K		X	E	R	O	X	E	S
	L	O	N	E	L		D	I	V			
	O	B	I		E	A	R		B	A	D	G
	L	I	Z	A		M	O	B		R	E	L
	L	E	E	D		S		B	O	B		M
			V	I	C			A	L	L	O	W
	C	A	M	E	R	A	S		O	I	L	
	O	A	M	A	R		D	E	M	O	N	
	A	M	I	S		E	G	A	D		S	U
	L	O	D	E		T	O	N		Y	H	I

7-4

## CRYPTOQUIP

AVL FSWV ECTBSE BAHJC  
 SPAWK S FCXOJCKEK ZJXC  
 KGSK TAXC CHCXPALR AWK:

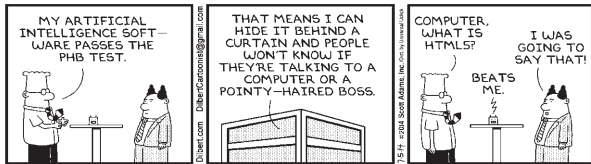
"KGC KJXJEM JEZCXEA."  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SEVERAL CATS PATIENTLY WAITING TO PAY OFF THEIR SERVICE CHARGES WERE IN A FELINE FEE LINE.  
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals T



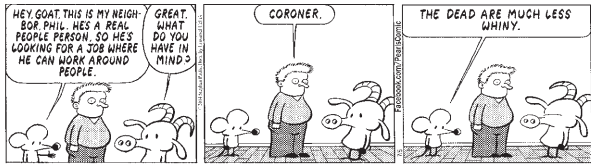
Frazz



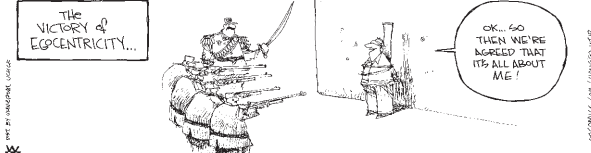
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



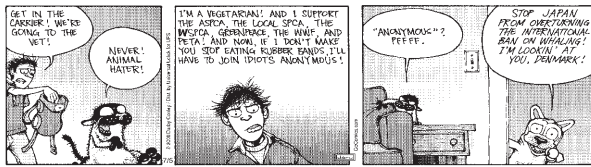
Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12				13					14				
15				16					17				
18				19					20				
			21				22						
23	24	25				26				27	28	29	
30					31				32				
33					34				35				
			36				37						
38	39	40					41				42	43	44
45							46				47		
48							49				50		
51							52				53		

### ACROSS

- Director Luhrmann
- Je ne — quoi
- Mozart's "— fan tute"
- Swiss canton
- Smoky thread
- Open somewhat
- Shark's giveaway
- Cruising
- Long story
- Sunday morning show since 1954
- Dance syllable?
- Conk out
- Wash
- Foundation
- "Humbbug!"
- Margarine
- Monkey suit
- Relocate
- Honeycomb stuff
- Prepare for a fight
- Radio's "Got it"
- IRS worker
- Sun Yat —
- Apparently
- Paddock parent
- Astor's wares
- Citric beverage
- Hertz rival
- "Dies —"
- Buddhist sect
- Remainder
- Uppercase
- Chow down

### DOWN

- Avid fan
- Met melody
- Galvanizing matter
- Wrap
- Tyler of "The Talk"
- "Understood"
- Stretchy material
- Social level
- California town
- Palm starch
- Persia, now
- Reverberate
- Help
- Violinist's need
- In the manner of
- Cowboy moniker
- Vagrant
- Cranberry territory
- Rd.
- That girl
- Deal (in)
- Prefix for rail
- Mimic
- Brand of Pieces and Purfs
- Toy holder
- Discard
- Bradley or Khayyam
- Church area
- Speaker of baseball lore
- Emanation
- Disconcert
- Notion
- Bivouac structure

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	A	S		P	C	T		F	A	R	A	D
A	G	O		A	H	H		O	B	E	S	E
R	A	N		C	A	R	T	O	U	C	H	E
S	P	A		K	N	E	A	D				
H	E	R	B		G	E	L	N	A	S	T	
				R	U	E		C	L	O	C	H
I	R	V	I	N				A	H	E	A	D
Q	U	I	C	H	E		R	B	I			
S	M	E	E		M	R	I	T		T	W	I
						S	M	A	C	K		A
M	O	U	S	T		A	C	H	E		F	A
A	R	R	A	Y		K	I	N		T	H	E
R	A	N	G	E		S	E	T		S	O	D

7-5

### CRYPTOQUIP

BPBO ICVEB SUBCO KWOOCWLB

NBLWV, SUBF RQIS VOLQB

YWCDF, SUBF KQIS'PB NBBV

RZCVBY CV WEOCKZVF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: OLD PAUL NEWMAN MOVIE ABOUT A PERSISTENT FIRE THAT WORE EVERYBODY OUT: "THE TIRING INFERNO."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals M

## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## US employers added 288K jobs in June

By Josh Boak  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers accelerated their hiring last month, adding a robust 288,000 jobs and helping drive the unemployment rate to 6.1 percent, the lowest since September 2008. The June unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans was 7 percent.

It was the fifth straight monthly job gain above 200,000 — the best such stretch since the late 1990s tech boom. During the past 12

months, the economy has added nearly 2.5 million jobs — 208,000 per month, the fastest year-over-year pace since May 2006.

Friday's report from the Labor Department made clear that the U.S. economy is moving steadily closer to full health after having shrunk at the start of the year.

June's job gain followed additions of 217,000 jobs in May and 304,000 in April, figures that were both revised upward. Monthly job gains so far this year have aver-

aged 230,833, up from 194,250 in 2013.

The unemployment rate dipped last month to its lowest level since the financial crisis struck at full force in the fall of 2008.

The gains were widespread. Factories added 16,000 workers. Retailers brought on 40,200. Financial and insurance firms increased their employee ranks by 17,000.

Job growth has averaged 272,000 during the past three

months. In May, the economy surpassed its jobs total in December 2007, when the Great Recession officially began.

The number of long-term unemployed has dropped by 1.2 million during the past year to just under 3.1 million. That is half what it was three years ago.

Still, economists at the liberal Economic Policy Institute estimate that 7 million more jobs would have been needed to keep up with population growth.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (July 4)	\$1.3996
Dollar buys (July 4)	€0.7145
British pound (July 4)	£1.76
Japanese yen (July 7)	¥99.00
South Korean won (July 4)	₩985.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.7146/0.5832
Canada (dollar)	1.0674
China (Yuan)	6.2120
Denmark (Krone)	5.4966
Egypt (Pound)	7.1506
Euro	\$1.3607/0.7349
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7511
Hungary (Forint)	228.53
Israel (Shekel)	3.4208
Japan (Yen)	99.00
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2821
Norway (Krone)	6.2136
Philippines (Peso)	43.61
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7506
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2475
South Korea (Won)	1,009.52
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8942
Thailand (Baht)	32.42
Turkey (New Lira)	1,1381

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the United Kingdom, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.00
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.04
30-year bond	3.46

## EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Germany	\$4.007	\$4.175	\$4.223	\$4.239
Change in price	+6.6 cents	+6.5 cents	+6.6 cents	+6.7 cents
Netherlands	--	\$5.181	\$5.227	\$5.225
Change in price	--	+12.6 cents	+12.7 cents	+16.7 cents
U.K.	\$4.247	\$4.309	\$4.192	\$4.193
Change in price	--	+5.1 cents	+7.1 cents	+7.2 cents
Azores	--	--	\$4.285	--
Change in price	--	--	+5.6 cents	--
Turkey	--	--	\$7.878	+12.9 cents
Change in price	--	--	+4.6 cents	+9.99*
Italy	\$4.088	--	+3.9 cents	no change
Change in price	+3.8 cents	--	--	--

## PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan	--	\$3.859	--	\$3.869
Change in price	--	no change	--	no change
Okinawa	\$3.689	--	--	\$3.909
Change in price	no change	--	--	no change
South Korea	\$3.829	--	\$4.159	\$4.490
Change in price	no change	--	+14.59	no change
Guam	\$3.819**	\$3.989	\$4.149	--
Change in price	no change	no change	no change	--

\* Diesel EFD \*\* Midgrade  
For the week of July 4-10

## MARKET WATCH

July 2, 2014

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16,976.24

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composite -0.92  
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Standard &  
Poor's 500 +1.30  
1,974.82

Russell  
2000 -6.45  
1,199.50

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



## Friday's US temperatures

City	H	L	Wthr	Chatanooga	86	62	Clr	Fort Wayne	74	51	Clr	Louisville	80	61	Clr	Pocatello	94	58	Clr	Sioux City	81	59	Cldy
Ablene, Tex	93	71	Pdly	Cheyenne	89	57	Pdly	Grand	103	69	Clr	Lubbock	92	67	Pdly	Portland, Maine	77	67	Rain	Sioux Falls	80	60	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	75	52	Pdly	Cincinnati	78	52	Clr	Goodland	93	62	Pdly	Macon	92	66	Clr	Portland, Ore.	78	57	Pdly	South Bend	72	52	Cldy
Albuquerque	90	67	Pdly	Cleveland	73	54	Clr	Grand Rapids	76	52	Clr	Madison	89	75	Clr	Pueblo	97	58	Pdly	Springfield, Ill.	79	53	Clr
Allentown, Pa.	79	66	Cldy	Colorado Springs	90	57	Pdly	Great Falls	89	60	Pdly	Memphis	85	63	Clr	Raleigh-Durham	85	70	Pdly	Springfield, Mo.	82	58	Clr
Amarillo	90	64	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	90	73	Pdly	Green Bay	76	52	Pdly	Miami Beach	89	78	Pdly	Rapid City	89	63	Clr	Tulsa	91	60	Pdly
Anchorage	73	53	Pdly	Columbus, Ga.	90	67	Clr	Greensboro, N.C.	84	67	Clr	Midland-Odessa	94	69	Pdly	San Antonio	95	63	Clr	Tallahassee	97	70	Pdly
Asheville	80	60	Clr	Columbus, Ohio	76	54	Clr	Harrisburg	79	67	Pdly	Milwaukee	75	57	Clr	Richmond	83	70	Clr	Tampa	90	80	Cldy
Atlanta	87	65	Clr	Concord, N.H.	78	68	Rain	Hartford Spfld	89	69	Rain	Mpls-St Paul	78	58	Pdly	Rochester	73	57	Clr	Washington	83	71	Cldy
Atlantic City	83	70	Rain	Corpus Christi	93	74	Clr	Havana	92	59	Cldy	Missoula	93	55	Clr	Rockford	75	57	Clr	Wichita Falls	95	70	Pdly
Austin	91	72	Clr	Dallas-Ft. Worth	94	73	Cldy	Key West	89	73	Clr	Montgomery	89	66	Clr	Sacramento	92	58	Clr	Wilmington, Del.	83	69	Cldy
Baltimore	83	69	Cldy	Dayton	76	51	Clr	Houston	92	77	Cldy	Nashville	89	66	Clr	St. Louis	82	59	Clr	Yakima	81	57	Clr
Baton Rouge	90	70	Pdly	Daytona Beach	94	76	Clr	Huntsville	85	61	Clr	New Orleans	90	76	Cldy	St. Thomas	89	79	Pdly	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy
Birmingham	85	63	Pdly	Denver	92	62	Pdly	Indianapolis	77	56	Clr	New York City	80	71	Rain	St. Petersburg	89	81	Cldy	Waco, Tex	94	72	Cldy
Bismarck	85	60	Clr	Des Moines	79	57	Pdly	Jacksonville	88	64	Clr	Newark	84	72	Rain	Salem, Ore.	79	52	Clr	Wilmington, N.C.	83	71	Cldy
Boise	99	64	Clr	Detroit	76	55	Clr	Jacksonville	96	75	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	83	75	Rain	Salt Lake City	96	70	Clr	Wilmington, Del.	83	71	Cldy
Boston	78	70	Rain	El Paso	95	77	Pdly	Kansas City	82	59	Pdly	North Platte	90	62	Pdly	San Diego	77	67	Pdly	Wichita Falls	95	70	Pdly
Bridgeport	78	71	Rain	Elkins	75	54	Clr	Key West	91	82	Pdly	Oklahoma City	92	66	Pdly	San Francisco	77	67	Clr	Wilkes-Barre	75	63	Cldy
Brownsville	93	75	Cldy	Erie	72	56	Clr	Knoxville	83	60	Clr	Omaha	83	60	Pdly	Seattle	73	55	Clr	Wilmington, Del.	83	69	Cldy
Buffalo	72	57	Pdly	Fargo	79	59	Clr	Lake Charles	89	74	Clr	Orlando	95	76	Clr	Shreveport	90	67	Clr	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	75	64	Clr	Fayetteville	78	58	Clr	Lansing	75	51	Clr	Paderborn	82	57	Clr	Sioux Falls	80	60	Cldy	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	73	66	Rain	Ft. Worth	78	54	Clr	Las Vegas	105	86	Pdly	Pendleton	85	56	Clr	St. Louis	81	57	Clr	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	93	74	Pdly	Fargo	75	56	Cldy	Lexington	85	60	Clr	Philadelphia	83	70	Cldy	St. Thomas	89	79	Pdly	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	93	74	Pdly	Flagstaff	79	52	Rain	Lincoln	85	60	Clr	Phoenix	104	89	Clr	St. Thomas	89	79	Pdly	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy
Charlotte, W.Va.	79	58	Clr	Flint	76	49	Clr	Little Rock	86	62	Clr	Pittsburgh	76	56	Clr	St. Thomas	89	79	Pdly	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	87	68	Pdly	Fort Smith	89	63	Clr	Los Angeles	81	65	Pdly	Pittsburgh	76	56	Clr	St. Thomas	89	79	Pdly	Yonkers	83	71	Cldy

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Wed., 123, Death Valley, Calif.  
Lo: Wed., 31, Pahrump, Nyo.

*I love my...*

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# Classifieds EUROPE

For information on Commercial Rates, CIV: 0631-3615-9012 or DSN: 583-9012

## Announcements 040 Automotive 140 Autos for Sale - Germany 142 Medical 690 Jobs Offered 630

### SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classified advertisements.

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Some of the latest scam fads:

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- People paying Free Dog different breeds than adoption.

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- In-depth knowledge of Windows 7, 2003/2008 & AD required
- Ability to work independently and troubleshoot to resolve user and systematic issues
- Travel to deploy or upgrade hardware or software, new ATMs, installations, and train branch staff
- Must be available to be on-call on a rotating basis for any computer related ATM or mechanical problems (cell phone)
- Bachelors degree in Computer Science or equivalent such as MCS or CCNA certifications
- Proficiency in the German language is desired

Immediately

CONTACT:

Service Credit Union - Overseas Network Systems Manager

Overseas Headquarters

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**Yamaha, YZF-R6, 2009**  
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**Harley Road King, 2004**  
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## NBA



BILLY SMITH II, HOUSTON CHRONICLE/AP

Houston Rockets fan Frank Vasquez takes a photograph of free agent forward Carmelo Anthony wearing Rockets jerseys in composite images on the Toyota Center marquee Wednesday in Houston. Anthony visited the Rockets on Wednesday.

# Carmelo visits Rockets

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Prized free agent Carmelo Anthony visited Houston on Wednesday and was greeted with images of him in two Rockets uniforms.

A day after visiting the Chicago Bulls, the New York Knicks' star continued his tour in Houston. A video board outside the Toyota Center depicted one image of Anthony in Houston's white uniform with red lettering and another in a retro red and yellow uniform. Between the pictures was Anthony's logo with the word 'Melo' in it. He was wearing his No. 7 in both renderings, despite the fact that current Rocket Jeremy Lin wears that number. The Rockets would likely have to unload the point guard to snag Anthony.

Lin responded to the snub on Twitter on Wednesday afternoon with a bible verse. He tweeted the verse Luke 6:29: "If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them."

Houston got the biggest prize in free agency last offseason when it signed Dwight Howard away from the Lakers, with designs on making a deep run in the playoffs this year. But the Rockets were bounced from the postseason in the first round just as they were the year before. So they started looking to upgrade the roster.

They made the first move to free up money for adding players by agreeing to a trade that will send center Omer Asik and

## Free agents

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**BROOKLYN** — Alan Anderson, Andrei Blatche, Jason Collins, Andrei Kirilenko, Shaun Livingston, Paul Pierce  
**CHARLOTTE** — Chris Douglas-Roberts, Ben Gordon, Josh McRoberts, Jannero Pargo, Luke Ridnour, Anthony Tolliver, D.J. White  
**CHICAGO** — D.J. Augustin, Jimmer Fredette, Kirk Hinrich, Naar Mohammed  
**CLEVELAND** — Luol Deng, Spencer Hawes, C.J. Miles  
**DALLAS** — Deluan Blair, Vince Carter, r-Jae Crowder, Devin Harris, Bernard James, Shawn Marion, Dirk Nowitzki  
**DENVER** — Darrell Arthur, Aaron Brooks, Nate Robinson, Jan Vesely  
**DETROIT** — Chauncey Billups, Jonas Jerebko, r-Greg Monroe, Rodney Stuckey, Charlie Villanueva  
**GOLDEN STATE** — Steve Blake, Jordan Crawford, Jermaine O'Neal  
**HOUSTON** — r-Troy Daniels, Francisco Garcia, Jordan Hamilton, r-Chandler Parsons  
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**MILWAUKEE** — Jeff Adrien, Ramon Sessions, Ekpe Udoh  
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**NEW ORLEANS** — Al-Farouq Aminu, Darluis Miller, Anthony Morrow, Brian Roberts, Jason Smith, James Southerland  
**NEW YORK** — Cole Aldrich, Carmelo Anthony, Andrea Bargnani, Kenyon Martin, Touré Murray, Amar'e Stoudemire, Metta World Peace  
**OKLAHOMA CITY** — Caron Butler, Derek Fisher, r-Grant Jerrett, Thabo Sefolosha  
**ORLANDO** — Doron Lamb, r-ETwaun Moore, Jameer Nelson  
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**PHOENIX** — Leandro Barbosa, r-Eric Bledsoe, Channing Frye, Emeka Okafor, r-P.J. Tucker  
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**SAN ANTONIO** — r-Aron Baynes, Matt Bonner, Boris Diaw, Tim Duncan, Damon James, Patty Mills  
**TORONTO** — Kyle Lowry, r-Nando De Colo, r-Patrick Patterson, r-Greivis Vasquez  
**UTAH** — r-Gordon Hayward, Richard Jefferson, Brandon Rush, Marvin Williams  
**WASHINGTON** — Trevor Ariza, r-Trevor Booker, Drew Gooden, Marcin Gortat, Al Harrington, r-Kevin Seraphin, Chris Singleton, Garrett Temple

**SOURCE:** nba.com

cash considerations to New Orleans for a protected first-round draft pick.

Lin is set to make more than \$8 million next season in the final year of a three-year contract. That's a steep price for a backup after he was relegated to the bench last season because of solid play by Patrick Beverley and started just 33 games.

The 30-year-old Anthony would add an-

other proven scorer to a team that features Howard and James Harden. Anthony averaged 25.2 points last season with the Knicks, which was second in the NBA to Oklahoma City's Kevin Durant. Harden was fifth in the league with a 24.3 average.

Anthony is expected to meet with the Dallas Mavericks and the Los Angeles Lakers before sitting down with the Knicks.

## Lowry staying with Raptors

TORONTO — Kyle Lowry is staying with the Toronto Raptors after leading them to the Atlantic Division title.

The point guard has agreed to re-sign with the Raptors, his agent confirmed Wednesday night. Yahoo Sports reported that the deal was for four years and \$48 million.

Lowry averaged career highs of 17.9 points and 7.4 assists for the Raptors, who were one of the NBA's biggest surprises in going 48-34. They were expected to be one of the league's worst teams, particularly after trading forward Rudy Gay early in the season, but instead nearly reached the Eastern Conference semifinals before failing to Brooklyn in seven games.

Lowry was considered the top point guard available and reportedly targeted by contending teams such as Miami and Houston during before deciding to stay put.

Contracts can't be signed until July 10.

## Hollins to be new Nets coach

NEW YORK — The Brooklyn Nets reached an agreement in principle Wednesday with Lionel Hollins to become their coach, moving quickly after the departure of Jason Kidd.

The deal with the former Memphis Grizzlies coach came two days after the Nets made a trade with the Milwaukee Bucks to allow Kidd out of his contract so the Bucks could hire him.

Nets general manager Billy King and his assistants then met with Hollins on Monday night and again Tuesday before agreeing to the deal. Terms were not disclosed.

"I want to thank the Nets ownership and Billy for this opportunity," Hollins said in a statement. "It has been a long process to get back into the league, and I believe that Billy and I will have a very successful working relationship. Brooklyn has firmly established itself as a franchise that is committed to winning, and I eagerly look forward to becoming part of that culture and building on the success of the past two playoff appearances."

The Nets will introduce Hollins at a press conference Monday.

Hollins led Memphis to 56 victories and the 2013 Western Conference finals before he and the Grizzlies parted ways. The Nets considered him last year after firing P.J. Carlesimo before hiring Kidd.

## Source: Kings, Collision agree

The Sacramento Kings got some much-needed depth at point guard and a possible backup plan if they lose starter Isaiah Thomas in free agency.

The Kings and Darren Collison agreed to a three-year contract worth about \$16 million Thursday, a person familiar with the deal said. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because teams can't officially sign free agents until the NBA's moratorium on moves is lifted July 10.

The Los Angeles Times first reported the deal.

Collison opted out of the final year of his contract with the Clippers that would have paid him \$1.9 million next season.

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## TOUR DE FRANCE

## History Tour

Cycling's biggest race pays tribute to WWI centennial with '14 course

By GREG KELLER  
The Associated Press

PARIS

Before sunrise on June 28, 1914, a pack of cyclists set off from Paris on the 12th Tour de France. Hours later, an Austrian archduke stepped out in Sarajevo and was assassinated in the street, igniting the carnage of World War I.

Now, 100 years later, cycling's greatest race is paying special tribute to the millions who fought and died in what came to be known as the Great War. Several stages of the famed Tour de France will run this year along the war's killing fields, trenches and fronts in northern France and Belgium.

The 1914 Tour was the last before a five-year suspension due to the war. Of the 145 riders that day, 15 of them, including three Tour champions, would die in the fighting.

In all, an estimated 45 cyclists who had raced in pre-war Tours were killed in the 1914-1918 war, according to cycling historian Jean-Paul Bourcier.

The Tour itself has a complicated history with the war. Its founder, Henri Desgrange, joined in the war mongering, using his L'Auto newspaper to issue a lusty call for his countrymen "to go get those bastards."

"When your rifle butt will be on their chest, they will ask you for forgiveness. Don't let them trick you. Pull the trigger without pity," Desgrange wrote, according to Graham Healy's book "The Shattered Peloton."

After the war, Desgrange pledged to never let a German rider compete in the Tour, a threat that was never carried out.



AP file photo

The cathedral in the town square of Ypres, Belgium, was left in ruins after the bombing during World War I. One hundred years after the war began, Tour de France organizers are marking the anniversary with a series of stages across the northern and eastern French and Belgian battlefields where so many lives, including three Tour champions from the 1914 race, were lost.

This year's three-week Tour begins July 5 in Leeds, England, before crossing the English Channel three days later. Riders and fans will have several occasions to pay homage to war victims: Stages 5 through 10 largely trace the 400-mile long Western Front, from Ypres, Belgium, to the Swiss border near the northeastern French city of Mulhouse.

An estimated 5 million combatants died on this front during the war, the British government estimates. Most are still buried there in immaculately landscaped military cemeteries or under farm-

ers' fields in unmarked graves.

Stage 5 starts in Ypres, the killing ground immortalized by Canadian soldier-poet John McCrae in his poem "In Flanders Fields":  
"We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields."

Riders will assemble that day within sight of the Menin Gate, a memorial dedicated to the 54,405 British and Commonwealth casualties whose graves are not known.

Not far from the Stage 5 start is cycling's iconic

Kemmelberg Hill. As recounted by Healy, Frenchman Camille Fly, at 17 the youngest-ever Tour rider, was shot and killed around there late in the war while serving as a bike messenger. Among the many nearby war memorials is the Kemmelberg French Ossuary where the bodies of 5,294 French soldiers lie buried.

The Stage 6 start in Arras takes riders near France's largest military cemetery, Notre-Dame-de-Lorette, where 40,058 French war dead are buried. Among them, most likely, is 1909 Tour champion Francois Faber of Luxembourg.

Less than a month after finishing ninth in the 1914 Tour, Faber enlisted in the French Foreign Legion. He was killed the following May during the Battle of Arras, just north of Arras. His body was never found, but a plaque in his memory can be seen in the Notre-Dame-de-Lorette church. Faber won the 1909 Tour with a display of sheer dominance. He won 6 of its 14 stages, including five in a row — a record that still stands — and led the race from Stage 2 to the finish. He won despite breaking his chain about 3,300 feet from the finish line in Paris. Carrying his bike, he ran to the finish line, where he was mobbed by fans.

Faber was offered a spot as his military unit's cyclist in 1915 but refused.

"I prefer to serve in the trenches. I know all about trench work and I have more chance of bringing down Germans there than as a cyclist," he said, according to Healy.

Stage 6 also takes riders along Chemin des Dames, a 30-kilometer ridge road and the site of one of the most disastrous French offensives of the war, where hundreds of thousands of men were killed in just a few weeks.

Two other Tour champions died near the route of Stage 7, from the Champagne town of Epernay to the northeastern city of Nancy: Octave Lapize, the 1910 winner, and Lucien Petit-Breton, a two-time winner in 1907 and 1908.

Lapize, who once famously called Tour organizers "assassins" for sending riders up impossibly steep climbs in the Pyrenees mountains, died when his biplane was shot down in a dogfight on Bastille Day, 1917, near the village of Flirey. This year the Tour will pass through Flirey on July 11.

Petit-Breton, who took part in nine of the first 12 Tours, was killed in an automobile accident while on an army mission near the front, which riders will trace on the way to Nancy.

Stage 7 also passes Verdun, a pivotal World War I battlefield where an estimated 300,000 French and German troops were killed — most ripped apart by the apocalyptic shelling that permanently disfigured the landscape.

Before the riders leave the battlefields behind and attack the Alps, one last, poignant reminder of World War I awaits. As they travel from Mulhouse to Besancon for the race's first rest day on July 15, the road passes close to the tiny village of Jonchery.

The village has a memorial to Jules-Armand Peugeot — a 21-year-old corporal killed in a skirmish with German troops on Aug. 2, 1914, making him the very first casualty on the Western Front.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF COLLECTION PRIVEE IVAN BONDUELLE (FABER), WIELERUMUSEUM

French cyclist and 1909 Tour de France winner Francois Faber, left, is depicted with his bike. Faber enlisted in the French Foreign Legion in 1914, and was killed the following May during the Battle of Arras. Belgian cyclist Philippe Thys won the 1914 Tour, which started June 28, 1914, just hours before Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated, leading to World War I. French rider and 1910 Tour winner Octave Lapize, right, died in 1917 when his biplane was shot down on Bastille Day near Flirey, which 2014 riders will pass through during Stage 7.



LAURENT REBOURS/AP

The pack rides past the Oise-Aisne American cemetery and memorial at Seringes-et-Nesles during the 1906 Tour de France. The majority of the 6,012 War Dead interred in the cemetery died fighting along the Ourcq river and in nearby areas in 1918.

## TOUR DE FRANCE

## New breed of Americans head to Paris

After upset victory in tuneup competition, Talansky sets sights on Tour's yellow jersey

Andrew Talansky's career has been on a steady rise since the journeyman rider finally found a proper team.

LIONEL CIRRONNEAU/AP



By DAVE SKRETTA  
The Associated Press

**F**ive years ago, while Alberto Contador was riding to victory in the Tour de France, Andrew Talansky was a vagabond cyclist scratching out a living in races across the United States.

He had returned from Europe disenchanted by an experience with a low-level team. He wasn't sure what his future held, but he knew he still loved to ride. So with few other options and the support of his family, he loaded up his belongings and spent the summer living out of his car.

"I made absolutely zero dollars that year," Talansky said, laughing. "I still own the car. It's a Honda Fit. It's a great car, man. Lives up to its name. You can fit a surprising amount of things in it — time trial bike, road bike, wheels, trainer, food, bags. Whatever you need."

Back then, though, what Talansky really needed was a chance. When he finally got one with a proper team, he parlayed it into a career that's been on a steady climb.

And now, after a stunning victory over Contador and fellow Tour favorites Chris Froome and Vincenzo Nibali in the recent Critérium du Dauphiné, the 25-year-old Talansky is poised to lead a new era of American cyclists in pursuit of the yellow jersey.

"When you look at the last five years, it's pretty incredible what's happened, every aspect of my life," Talansky said in a phone interview from his training base in Girona, Spain, where he was getting in his last workouts before the Tour's rolling start in Leeds, England.

"Every now and then you look at the whole thing and say, 'Wow.' But honestly? I always dreamed I'd be doing what I'm doing now," he said. "I never dreamed of just scraping by."

Those are the same dreams that drove Tejay van Garderen, Peter Stetina and countless other young American riders to

not only try a largely European sport but also thrive in it.

Many of them grew up idolizing Lance Armstrong and Levi Leipheimer, and then stuck with the embattled sport through each wave of doping allegations that shook it to its very core. Now that Armstrong has acknowledged doping and his seven titles have been stricken from the books, Greg LeMond stands as the only rider from the U.S. to have legitimately won the Tour.

"We're all very supportive of what we're trying to do," Talansky explained of the American contingent, "and that's to be a credible new generation that promotes the sport in a good way and brings fans back to the sport, fans who have maybe been disillusioned by the past."

The best way to do that, of course, is by winning.

Van Garderen, who will lead the BMC Racing Team at the Tour, may be the most accomplished of the new generation. He stunned the cycling world two years ago when, at the age of 23, he finished fifth overall while helping teammate Cadel Evans capture victory on the Champs-Élysées.

Van Garderen had a disappointing showing in France last year, but rebounded to win the USA Pro Cycling Challenge. He's battled injuries this year but has been rounding it out.

"I'm definitely confident in my ability to be a contender at the Tour," van Garderen said. "Obviously, Froome is the No. 1 guy, the defending Tour champion. Contador has had a stellar season. He's barely lost any race he's started. They're the two five-star favorites. But you have a lot of guys who have a chance."

Van Garderen will be helped over the 21 stages, 2,277 miles and the harrowing climbs of the Alps and Pyrenees by the 26-year-old Stetina, who will be making his Tour debut.

"Tejay is our guy," BMC Racing president Jim Ochowicz said. "He's going in there alone to be our leader, and we'll have eight strong guys around him to make sure that job gets done."

Meanwhile, Talansky is the leader of Garmin-Sharp. "We've all been building the team for the Tour de France around Andrew from Day 1," said Jonathan Vaughters, the team's chief executive. "A lot of people earlier this year thought that was a little crazy, but we decided to take that approach."

Nobody thinks he's crazy anymore.



## Stage schedule

A list of the stages for the 101st Tour de France, a 2,277-mile race July 5-27 from Leeds, West Yorkshire, England to Paris.

Stage	Date	Location	Miles
Stage 1	July 5	Leeds-Harrogate	119
Stage 2	July 6	York-Sheffield	123
Stage 3	July 7	Cambridge-London	99
Stage 4	July 8	Le Touquet-Paris-Lille Métropole	102
Stage 5	July 9	Yves-Arenberg-Porte du Hainaut	97
Stage 6	July 10	Arras-Reims	121
Stage 7	July 11	Épervier-Nancy	145
Stage 8	July 12	Tombelaine-Gérardmer-La Mouselle	100
Stage 9	July 13	Gérardmer-Mulhouse	103
Stage 10	July 14	Mulhouse-La Planchette des Belles Filles	100
July 15	Rest Day		
Stage 11	July 16	Besançon-Oyonnax	116
Stage 12	July 17	Bourg-en-Bresse-Saint-Etienne	114
Stage 13	July 18	Saint-Etienne-Chamrousse	124
Stage 14	July 19	Grenoble-Risoul	110
Stage 15	July 20	Tallard-Nîmes	138
July 21	Rest Day		
Stage 16	July 22	Carcassonne-Bagnères-de-Luchon	147
Stage 17	July 23	St. Gaudens-St. Lary-Soulan	78
Stage 18	July 24	Pau-Hautacam	90
Stage 19	July 25	Maubourgnat-Pays-Bergerie	129
Stage 20	July 26	Bergerie-Morlaix (time trial)	34
Stage 21	July 27	Evry-Paris-Champs-Élysées	85

Source: The Associated Press

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# WIMBLEDON/AUTO RACING



PAVEL GOLOVNIK/AP

Eugenie Bouchard celebrates a point against Simona Halep during their Wimbledon semifinal match Thursday at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in London. Bouchard won 7-6 (5), 6-2.

## Bouchard, Kvitova in final

By DENNIS PASSA  
The Associated Press

LONDON—Eugenie Bouchard defeated French Open runner-up Simona Halep 7-6 (5), 6-2 Thursday to advance to the Wimbledon final against 2011 champion Petra Kvitova.

The 20-year-old Bouchard, who has not dropped a set in six matches, won on her sixth match point to reach her first Grand Slam final. She lost in the semifinals at this year's two previous majors, the Australian Open and French Open.

The first Canadian woman to reach Wimbledon's semifinals, Bouchard is the youngest player ranked in the top 20 — and will move into the top 10, at least to No. 8, on Monday, regardless of how she does in Saturday's final.

"I've put in a lot of hard work and it's been kind of years in the making to me," Bouchard said. "So I believe in myself and I expect good results. I've had a good start to the season, but I expect myself to do even better than that."

In a semifinal that was delayed twice in the first set — first by a left ankle injury to Halep, and then when a woman spectator fell ill during the tiebreaker — Halep double-faulted on break point in

the second set and then was broken again by Bouchard to give the Canadian a 4-1 lead.

Earlier, Kvitova beat fellow Czech left-hander Lucie Safarova 7-6 (6), 6-1.

No. 3-seeded Halep, who saved three match points in the seventh game and two more in the final game, appeared to be increasingly affected by her ankle injury and looked down at her feet several times after hitting shots.

"It was difficult to continue ... I felt a big pain in the moment, but then was better with the tape," Halep said. "But, still, I couldn't push anymore with my leg. My first serve was really bad after that."

On Bouchard's first match point, Halep hit an ace, but Bouchard did not appear ready to receive, and she went to speak with chair umpire Kader Nouni. But the point stood and Bouchard failed to clinch the match.

"It was a little crazy," Bouchard said. "I've never really kind of ended a match like that. Just happy I kept my focus and didn't get distracted or anything, and played well in the last game."

Kvitova beat Bouchard in their only meeting on hard courts.

"I find her as a very solid and talented player," Kvitova said.

## Scoreboard

**Thursday**  
**At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club**  
**London**  
**Purse: \$42.5 million (Grand Slam)**  
**Surface: Grass-Outdoor**  
**Singles**  
**Women**  
**Semifinals**  
Petra Kvitova (6), Czech Republic, def. Lucie Safarova (3), Czech Republic, 7-6 (5), 6-1.  
Eugenie Bouchard (13), Canada, def. Simona Halep (3), Romania, 7-6 (5), 6-2.

**Doubles**  
**Men**  
**Quarterfinals**  
Leander Paes, India, and Radek Stepanek (5), Czech Republic, def. Daniel Nestor, Canada, and Nenad Zimonjic (3), Serbia, 3-6, 7-5 (5), 6-3, 6-4.  
Vasek Pospisil, Canada, and Jack Sock, United States, def. Alexander Peya, Austria, and Bruno Soares (2), Brazil, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4.

**Women**  
**Quarterfinals**  
Sara Errani and Roberta Vinci (2), Italy, def. Ashleigh Barty and Casey Dellacqua (6), Australia, 6-4, 2-6, 6-0.  
Timea Babos, Hungary, and Kristina Mladenovic (14), France, def. Alla Kudryavtseva, Russia, and Anastasia Rodionova (11), Australia, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

"She is confident in her game right now. She's moving very well ... she's playing aggressively."

The men's semifinals are scheduled for Friday, with top-seeded Novak Djokovic playing Grigor Dimitrov, and seven-time champion Roger Federer taking on Canada's Milos Raonic.

## Around the track

### SPRINT CUP

**This week:** Coke Zero 400 at Daytona, Fla.

**TV:** Delayed, AFN-Xtra, noon, Sunday, Central European Time; 7 p.m. Japan/Korea Time

**Track:** Daytona International Speedway (tri-oval, 2.5 miles).

**Race distance:** 400 miles, 160 laps.

**Last year:** Jimmie Johnson won to become the first driver since Bobby Allison in 1982 to sweep the season races at the track. Tony Stewart was second.

**Last week:** Brad Keselowski dominated at Kentucky Speedway for his second victory of the season.

**Next race:** Camping World RV Sales 301, July 13, New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon, N.H.

**Online:** nascar.com

### DRIVER STANDINGS

1. Jeff Gordon .....	618
2. Jimmie Johnson .....	594
3. Dale Earnhardt Jr. ....	594
4. Brad Keselowski .....	560
5. Matt Kenseth .....	555
6. Carl Edwards .....	536
7. Joey Logano .....	519
8. Ryan Newman .....	514
9. Kevin Harvick .....	509
10. Kyle Busch .....	508
11. Paul Menard .....	488
12. Kyle Larson .....	474
13. Greg Biffle .....	474
14. Clint Bowyer .....	473
15. Kasey Kahne .....	465
16. Tony Stewart .....	455
17. Denny Hamlin .....	460
18. Austin Dillon .....	455
19. Brian Vickers .....	442
20. Marcos Ambrose .....	438



### Driver to watch

**Dale Earnhardt Jr.** won the season-opening Daytona 500, and will look to become just the sixth driver in history to sweep the season's Sprint Cup races at the track. His recent string of solid results has resulted in an average finish of 5.0 and includes his first career win at Pocono and top-five at Sonoma, where the driver hadn't fared well in the past. With a victory Saturday, he could cement his status as a Chase title contender. Earnhardt has three wins, 11 top fives, 17 top 10s and one pole at Daytona.

## NATIONWIDE SERIES

**This week:** Subway Firecracker 250.

**TV:** AFN-Xtra, 1:30 a.m. Saturday, CET; 8:30 a.m. Japan/Korea Time.

**Track:** Daytona International Speedway (tri-oval, 2.5 miles).

**Race distance:** 250 miles, 100 laps.

**Last year:** Matt Kenseth pulled away on the final restart.

**Last week:** Kevin Harvick won at Kentucky Speedway for his second victory of the season.

**Next race:** Sta-Green 200, July 12, New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon, N.H.

**Online:** www.nascar.com

## CAMPING WORLD TRUCK

**Last week:** Kyle Busch made it 5-for-5 this season in the series, holding off Kyle Busch Motorsports teammate Darrell Wallace Jr. at Kentucky Speedway. Busch has six straight series victories dating to last season and 40 overall in 120 starts.

**Next race:** American Ethanol 200, July 11, Iowa Speedway, Newton, Iowa.

**Online:** www.nascar.com

## NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING

**This week:** Summit Racing Equipment Nationals at Norwalk, Ohio.

**TV:** Delayed, AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m. Monday, CET; 11 p.m. Japan/Korea Time.

**Track:** Summit Motorsports Park.

**Last year:** Johnny Gray won in Funny Car, Khalid Al-Baloshi in Top Fuel, Mike Edwards in Pro Stock, and Matt Smith in Pro Stock Motorcycle.

**Last week:** Matt Hagan won the Route 66 Nationals in Joliet, Ill., for his first Funny Car victory of the season. Antron Brown won in Top Fuel, Vincent Noble in Pro Stock, and Hector Arana Jr. in Pro Stock Motorcycle.

**Next event:** Mile-High NHRA Nationals, July 18-20, Bandimere Speedway, Morrison, Colorado.

**Online:** www.nhra.com

## FORMULA ONE

**This week:** British Grand Prix, July 6, Silverstone Circuit, Silverstone, England.

**Track:** Silverstone Circuit (road course, 3.667 miles)

**Race distance:** 190.6 miles, 52 laps.

**Last year:** Mercedes' Nico Rosberg raced to the second of his two 2013 victories in the event marred by exploding tires.

**Last race:** Rosberg won the Austrian Grand Prix on June 22, edging teammate Lewis Hamilton in Mercedes' sixth 1-2 finish in the first eight races of the year.

**Online:** www.formula1.com

## VERIZON INDYCAR

**This week:** Pocono IndyCar 500 at Long Pond, Pa.

**TV:** Delayed, AFN-Xtra, 6 a.m. Monday, CET; 1 p.m. Monday, Japan/Korea Time.

**Track:** Pocono Raceway (triangle, 2.5 miles).

**Race distance:** 400 miles, 160 laps.

**Last year:** Scott Dixon won in IndyCar's return to Pocono, leading Chip Ganassi Racing's sweep of the first three spots.

**Last week:** Dale Coyne Racing's Carlos Huertas won the rain-soaked doubleheader opener in Houston, leading Colombian podium sweep with Juan Pablo Montoya and Carlos Munoz. Simon Pagenaud won the second race for his second victory of the season, and Sam Schmidt teammate Mikhail Aleshin finished second.

**Next race:** Iowa Corn Indy 300, July 12, Iowa Speedway, Newton, Iowa.

**Online:** www.indycar.com



## WORLD CUP

# Ready: Players desperate to join world's elite

## FROM BACK PAGE

While buoyed by the increase in attention, players are desperate to join the world's elite and far from attaining that level.

Klinsmann was a World Cup champion as a player with West Germany in 1990 and coach of the German team that reached the 2006 semifinals. Having moved to California in 1998 with his American wife, he is seen as bringing the perspective of soccer's elite to a nation that remains a new world in the sport.

His message to players is they don't need to be perfect. "It makes them feel accountable, not just walk away with a bad performance and nothing happens," he said. "If you have a bad performance, then people should approach you and tell you that, so make sure that next game is not bad anymore and that you step it up."



Klinsmann

President Barack Obama spoke to captain Clint Dempsey and goalkeeper Tim Howard on Wednesday to congratulate the team on its performance. Obama "commended them not only for their work on the field, but for carrying themselves in a way that made the country proud," the White House said in a statement.

Late Wednesday at the airport, Dempsey, forward Jozy Altidore and defender DaMarcus Beasley were cheered and stopped for autographs and photos before they boarded an American Airlines flight to Miami.

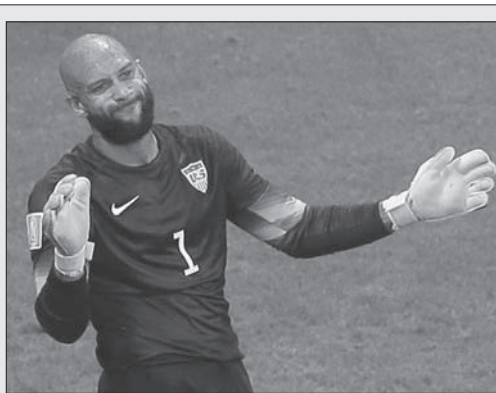
"People now start to care about it. Fans care about it. They comment on social media. They comment everywhere about it, and that's good," Klinsmann said.

His most controversial moves coming into the tournament were cutting London Donovan, the biggest star in U.S. soccer history, and taking along 18-year-old Julian Green, 20-year-old DeAndre Yedlin and 21-year-old John Brooks. Brooks and Green, who turned 19 on June 6, responded with late-game goals when they came in as substitutes, and Yedlin was stellar against Belgium when he replaced injured right back Fabian Johnson.

Klinsmann took over from Bob Bradley in July 2011. Last December, he was given a contract through the 2018 tournament, and added the title of U.S. Soccer Federation technical director. In the next four-year cycle, he has numerous chances to integrate youth: the CONCACAF Gold Cups in 2015 and 2017, the centennial Copa America in 2016 and a possible trip to the Confederations Cup in 2017.

He defended his pre-tournament comment that the U.S. was not ready to win the World Cup, saying he didn't want to raise "expectations to kind of a level that is over the moon." After he arrived in Brazil, he mentioned he was prepared to stay for the entire tournament, that he had booked a plane ticket for the day after the final just in case.

But as U.S. players prepared to scatter to clubs and family vacations, Klinsmann conceded he also was leaving early. "I changed the ticket last night," he said.



TIMBIA HADEBE/AP

United States' goalkeeper Tim Howard gestures to his teammates after making a save against Belgium at the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador, Brazil, on Tuesday.

# GK Howard's play highlight of US run 16-save performance leaves lasting impression on fans

By JANIE McCAULEY  
The Associated Press

SAO PAULO — Tim Howard left a lasting impression on Americans from coast to coast — and fans around the world, really — for his incredible, improbable saves in the loss to Belgium in extra time that sent the U.S. home from the World Cup to a country captivated.

Howard is a big reason — 6-foot-3, to be exact — for the fascination. He has become a Twitter sensation in less than a day, while raising one important question before he leaves Brazil: Will the 35-year-old goalkeeper be back for the next World Cup four years from now in Russia?

"When you're in the public eye, it's part of what you have to deal with," Howard said Wednesday of the hype from his record-setting World Cup. "I've been dealing with it for a long time. It's nice that America knows about soccer now. That's what's important."

Howard's 16 saves in the 2-1 loss were the most in a World Cup game since FIFA started tracking the statistic in 2002.

Someone had fun with Howard's heroics on Wikipedia, briefly listing the star goalie as incumbent "Secretary of Defense of the United States of America." Later, the real defense secretary, Chuck Hagel, called Howard with congratulations and a team invite to the Pentagon.

A photo from Howard's high school yearbook even began circulating, featuring the quote, "It will take a nation of millions to hold me back."

Even Belgium captain Vincent Kompany tweeted: "Two words. TIM HOWARD #Respect #BelUSA." That post

had received 59,675 re-tweets and 45,242 favorites by early evening Wednesday.

"It's fantastic because it also shows how all the games in the World Cup were received back at home," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said, "and many people watched this competition maybe more than it was four years ago in South Africa. It's fun to see that, and he deserves every compliment for his game last night."

The hashtag #ThingsTimHoward-CouldSave was trending on Twitter, and fans superimposed his image into all sorts of famous scenes. There's an outstretched Howard preventing the Titanic from sinking and breaking up Diego Maradona's "Hand of God" goal.

"With social media, nothing surprises me," Howard said. "There are some very creative and fun individuals out there."

The team was scheduled to fly back to the U.S. late Wednesday and Howard soon will return to his Premier League club, Everton.

Millions of Americans will be rooting for Howard to play in the 2018 World Cup. That's something Howard will discuss with those close to him.

"What happens going forward with the national team, I don't know," he said. "I don't think it's very black and white, to be honest. I need to figure all that out."

Howard had 15 shutouts — one behind co-leaders Petr Cech of Chelsea and Wojciech Szczesny of Arsenal — in 37 league matches for Everton this season before joining the Americans in mid-May for training camp in Northern California. In the spring, he signed a contract extension through 2018 and is likely to close out his career with Everton.

# FIFA: 4th sub in extra time a possibility

By GRAHAM DUNBAR  
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Substitutes have made a big impact at the World Cup, and there could be more of them in four years' time.

FIFA's coaching advisers will propose before the 2018 World Cup kicks off that teams can use a fourth substitute in extra time.

"I think that's an idea that we will put" to football's rules-making panel, Gerard Houllier, a member of the FIFA technical study group, said at a briefing on Wednesday.

Up to three replacements are currently allowed, even when knockout matches go to 30 extra minutes after scores are level in regulation time.

Houllier said changing the rules could see fewer players struggle with muscle problems in high-intensity matches.

"It's a good idea. Only in extra time. Maybe if someone is injured, why not?"

Gerard Houllier FIFA technical study group

So far, substitutes have scored 29 goals after coming off the bench in Brazil, already a World Cup record with eight matches left to play. The previous mark was 23 at the 2006 tournament in Germany, FIFA said.

"Substitutes play such an important part because they come with a freshness and attitude," Houllier said. "Nearly a quarter of (all) the goals have been scored in the final 15 minutes of the game."

Those goals by subs have often been game-changing, rather than additional scores in blowout victories.

Klaas-Jan Huntelaar came on late when the Netherlands were losing 1-0 to Mexico in the round of 16 on Sunday. Huntelaar teed up Wesley Sneijders for an 88th-minute leveller and then scored the decisive stoppage-time penalty.

On Monday, Belgium could not beat inspired United States goalkeeper Tim Howard until substitute Romelu Lukaku was sent on in extra time and quickly set up Kevin De Bruyne for the equalizing goal, then scored the second in a 2-1 win.

The Americans also got a decisive late goal in its opening group match from defensive replacement John Brooks.

FIFA has asked Houllier's group to propose ideas to football's rules panel, which is known as IFAB.

## By the numbers

29 23

Goals scored by substitutes coming off the bench at 2014 World Cup.

Previous World Cup record for goals scored by subs, set in 2006.

# WORLD CUP

## Deschamps: Guts, goals win games

By JEROME PUGMIRE  
The Associated Press

RIBEIRAO PRETO, Brazil — France coach Didier Deschamps has never lost a World Cup match, and his experience tells him that winning Friday's quarterfinal against Germany will come down to guts.

Deschamps captained France to its only World Cup title in 1998, when the side was unbeaten, and he was again captain two years later when it won the European Championship.

His first World Cup campaign as coach is also proving fruitful, with France winning three and drawing one of its four games so far, although Les Bleus needed late goals to beat Nigeria 2-0 in Monday's second-round match. France's group — containing Switzerland, Ecuador and Honduras — was not among the strongest in the competition and Germany will be the favorite at the Maracana.

"Football ability is one thing, but it's your mentality and what you have in your stomach that allows you to turn a situation around and get a result," Deschamps said on Tuesday.

"I hate (defeat) and I always will hate it. The players need to feel that way and they do. It's not an exact science, but you need to dig deep inside of yourself, never give up and keep going."

France was in disarray at the last World Cup four years ago, where it went on strike and went out without winning a game. The team almost did not qualify for this tournament after losing 2-0 in the first leg of its playoff against Ukraine last November.

After that bitterly cold night in Kiev, few observers would have banked on France getting this far. But since then, it is unbeaten in nine games, has kept seven clean sheets and scored 28 goals.

"I'm very proud of what the team has done," Deschamps said. "We haven't failed our World Cup, that's for sure. But we're not going into Friday's match as tourists. If we go into it all relaxed then we'll get a shock."

France has won four of the past six friendly matches against Germany, with one draw and a 2-1 defeat the last time they played two years ago.

It's a different story at the World Cup, with Michel Platini's entertaining France side losing to the former West Germany in the semifinals in 1982 and 1986.

The defeat in '82 is arguably the most painful defeat in the history of French football, after France led 3-1 in extra time only to lose in a tense penalty shootout in Seville.

That match also saw a notorious incident when goalkeeper Harald Schumacher rushed off his line and smashed France defender Patrick Battiston full in the face as he ran through on goal. There was no attempt to get the ball, an unconscious Battiston went off on a stretcher and, astonishingly, Schumacher was not even shown a yellow card.

"My first souvenirs are of this '82 World Cup. It was a cruel ending but it was more than 30 years ago, so we're not going to start talking about revenge," the 45-year-old Deschamps said. "It was a big moment emotionally for those players, a sad one. But football has that magical quality of emotion."

Deschamps, however, will not use that match, or the 2-0 defeat in the semifinal four years later, to motivate his players.

"They weren't born then. I'm going to talk to them about what? If I talk to them about 2006, OK, but you have to live in your own era," Deschamps said.

"What's important is what happens on Friday."



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP

Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer, right, hits Algeria's Rafik Halliche in the face after clearing the ball Monday during their round of 16 match at the Estadio Beira-Rio in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

## Germany sees parallels with 1990 winning team

By NESHA STARCEVIC  
The Associated Press

PORTO SEGURO, Brazil Facing criticism at home for failing to find the beautiful game, Germany is drawing parallels to its 1990 World Cup campaign, when it won the last of its three titles.

Under coach Franz Beckenbauer in Italy, Germany got off to a rocket start, only to begin fading as the tournament grew long. But the Germans plodded through and beat Argentina 1-0 in the final in Rome to lift the title.

In this World Cup, Germany crushed Portugal 4-0 to open the tournament but is under fire from fans and media for a perceived lack of flair, especially after needing extra time to beat Algeria 2-1 and earn a ninth straight spot in the quarterfinals. Germany plays France on Friday in Rio de Janeiro.

Assistant coach Andreas Koepcke recalled Wednesday how the team labored to win the 1990 title.

"Of course, we discussed this match (against Algeria) later among us and we were not beating around the bush," Koepcke said Wednesday. "But you are going to have such matches in a tournament. Look at 1990 and



MATTHIAS SCHRADER/AP

Germany assistant Andreas Koepcke speaks to the media.

how it ended."

Germany kicked off its 1990 campaign with a 4-1 victory over then-highly touted Yugoslavia. It followed with a 5-1 demolition of the United Arab Emirates but settled for a 1-1 draw with Colombia in the final group match.

Germany then beat the Netherlands 2-1 in an ill-tempered match, and edged the Czech Republic 1-0 before needing penalties to defeat England in the semifinals following a 1-1 draw.

Here in Brazil, Germany had to come from behind to earn a 2-2 draw with Ghana in its second match, before edging the United States 1-0 and struggling mightily in the extra-time win over Algeria that exposed its wobbly defense, which produced a series of errors in a shaky display.

Germany had goalkeeper Manuel Neuer to thank for that win.

"We are not happy, either, with our performances, but at the end we've always come out as deserved winners. It's the winning that matters," Neuer said Wednesday, ahead of the team's departure for Rio de Janeiro.

Germany coach Joachim Loew sounded a similar note after the Algeria match.

"Should I now be disappointed that we are in the last eight?" he asked, rhetorically. "There are such games in every tournament when you need the willpower to advance. You don't have to play fantastic every match, you have to win."

Loew is under pressure to win his first title in his fourth major tournament. Germany was runner-up at the Euro 2008, a semifinalist at the 2010 World Cup and a semifinalist at the 2012 Euro, when his tactics in the loss to Italy were heavily criticized.

Germany is trying to avoid the role of favorite in the match against France.

"France has always had good individuals but they now play as (a) real team," Koepcke said.

Neuer added: "They are dangerous and flexible. They may not have played perfect games, but they are strong and steady."



MARTIN MEISSNER/AP

France head coach Didier Deschamps shouts at his team during Monday's round of 16 match against Nigeria at the Estadio Nacional in Brasilia, Brazil. France needed late goals to win the match 2-0.

## WORLD CUP

## Brazil faces upbeat Colombia in quarters

BY TALES AZZONI  
The Associated Press

TERESOPOLIS, Brazil — Brazil and Colombia enter the World Cup quarterfinals with totally different mindsets.

Brazil is surrounded by doubts after a more difficult start than expected to the tournament it is hosting. Colombia is upbeat after convincing performances and four straight wins.

While the hosts narrowly beat Chile in a penalty shootout to avoid elimination in the second round, the Colombians had a convincing 2-0 win over Uruguay to reach the quarterfinals for the first time.

The South American rivals play Friday in the northeastern city of Fortaleza, with Brazil hoping to keep alive its quest for a sixth World Cup title and Colombia aiming to extend its best ever run in football's showcase event.

Despite its tradition and home-field advantage, Brazil is far from a big favorite. An uncomfortable opening win over Croatia, a draw with Mexico and a win over Cameroon in the group stage preceded the tight knockout match against Chile, when Brazil advanced on penalties.

"It's normal to have people demanding that we play better," Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari said. "But it's also normal that we have been seeing in this World Cup so far. There were a lot of even matches. There is no difference between teams that have tradition and world titles and the rest of the teams. Matches are being decided on penalties, in the final minutes, on mistakes."



MARTIN MEISSNER/AP

**Brazil's hopes of reaching the World Cup semifinals remain on the shoulders of Neymar, who has scored four goals and has been the team's most consistent offensive threat.**



#### Brazil vs. Colombia

AFN-Sports  
9:30 p.m. Friday CET  
4:30 a.m. Sunday JKT

Colombia has won all of its matches without any real difficulty, thanks in part to the tournament's second-best attack with 11 goals, one less than the Netherlands.

"We're very happy because we

are making history," said Colombia midfielder James Rodriguez, the tournament's leading scorer with five goals. "We want to do even more because this is a team that really wants to win."

Colombia has beaten Brazil only twice — the last time in the 1991 Copa America — but the teams have drawn the last four matches they played, including in a 2012 friendly in New York.

Brazil has reached the quarterfinals in six consecutive World Cups, but was eliminated at this stage in the past two.

The host nation's hopes of going farther into the tournament this time remain on the shoulders of Neymar, who has scored four

goals and has been decisive for his team. The striker injured his right knee against Chile but team doctors said he will be fit to play at the Arena Castelao.

Colombia is relying mostly on Rodriguez, one of the stars of the World Cup so far.

"He has a lot of quality with his left foot, he's showing why Monaco paid a lot of money to sign him," Brazil defensive midfielder Fernandinho said. "We can't give him any space, we are going to have to be very careful with him."

Colombia coach Jose Pekerman has all of his players available, but Scolari will make changes due to the suspension of defensive midfielder Luiz Gustavo.

In Wednesday's training, Scolari hinted that midfielder Paulinho will be Gustavo's replacement.



**Colombia's James Rodriguez is the leading scorer at the World Cup with five goals.**

MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

## France comfortable as underdog against Germany

BY STEVE DOUGLAS  
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — A European presence in the World Cup semifinals is assured as Germany and France meet at the Maracana on Friday, looking to shrug off stumbling wins in the second round that exposed frailties in both teams.

Contesting a quarterfinal for the ninth straight World Cup, the Germans will start as slight favorites because of their vast experience in major tournaments but with doubts surrounding a slow, porous defense that was breached repeatedly in the 2-1 extra-time victory over Algeria on Monday.

If goalkeeper Manuel Neuer hadn't produced the kind of sweeper display that German greats Franz Beckenbauer and Lothar Matthaus would have been proud of, Joachim Loew's side could have been on the end of a real shock.

The French also left it late in the last 16, scoring twice in the final 11 minutes to beat Nigeria 2-0 in a gritty performance that failed to match the swashbuckling attack-



#### Germany vs. France

AFN-Xtra  
5:30 p.m. Friday CET  
12:30 a.m. Saturday JKT

ing exhibitions they put on in the group stage.

France was thrust among the tournament favorites after scoring a combined eight goals against Switzerland and Honduras. Yet, Didier Deschamps' inexperienced team played within themselves against Nigeria, perhaps struggling under the weight of lofty expectations.

Deschamps counts France as the underdog.

"Don't forget that in the last two competitions, Germany have reached the semifinals so it counts for something," he said, referring to the 2010 World Cup and the European Championship in 2012.



DAVID VINCENT/AP

**France's Mathieu Valbuena celebrates after its 2-1 World Cup Round of 16 win over Nigeria in Brasilia, Brazil.**

"They're used to playing at the highest level and have experience of playing at this stage of a competition. All of the German players play in big clubs, a lot of them play for Bayern Munich."

Still, after starting up in Brazil with a 4-0 victory over Portugal, Germany's displays have been far from convincing. Nerves are be-

ginning to show and Loew — under pressure to finally win a title in his fourth major tournament — has been on the defensive.

"Should I now be disappointed that we are in the last eight?" he asked, rhetorically, on Tuesday. "There are such games in every tournament when you need the will power to advance."

Defense undoubtedly is Loew's chief concern, although the probable return of Mats Hummels at center back after illness will make up for the loss of Shkodran Mustafi for the rest of the tournament with a left hamstring injury.

There may also be a change in the center of France's defense, with Mamadou Sakho available again after a hamstring problem that caused him to miss the Nigeria game. However, Laurent Koscielny had a good display as the replacement, helping the French to a third clean sheet in four games in Brazil, and would be unlikely to lose his place.

As part of a revamped squad under Deschamps, the likes of Paul Pogba, Raphael Varane and Antoine Griezmann are playing at their first major tournament and being exposed to football's highest stage for the first time. The coach, though, remains unperturbed.

The quarterfinal in Rio de Janeiro offers another chance for veteran Germany striker Miroslav Klose to break the World Cup scoring record of 15 goals that he currently shares with Brazil great Ronaldo.



## WORLD CUP

# Fashion and football?

## Unique haircuts a standout feature

By STEVE DOUGLAS  
The Associated Press

**I**t was an odd place to find three international footballers on the eve of a crucial World Cup game, inside a small hair salon located on the forecourt of a gas station on the outskirts of a remote Brazilian city.

But there they were, Nigeria stars Emmanuel Emenike, Kenneth Omeruo and Ahmed Musa, eager for a new style and color touch-ups for the big match against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"They are very vain," said Dirce Cardoso, owner of the Salao de Beleza Aeroporito in southern Cuiaba. "They wanted to be pampered."

So Cardoso obliged. She canceled her other appointments, closed the salon and gave the footballers the full VIP treatment. Two of them got a Mohican and two of them had their hair dyed black.

Total cost: \$71 — and Cardoso was even treated to a ticket for the match.

It seems like we have a new addition to the footballer's pre-match routine — healthy meal, massage, a few media interviews ... and a new haircut.

This World Cup has been a tournament full of goals, surprise results and breath-taking skills, but also some of the wackiest, most outrageous hairstyles you'll find in sports.

Rat tails, Mohicans, dreadlocks, braids, bleached blond, outlandish side-partings, the "Afro" — you name a hairstyle,

and at least one player is certain to have had it. And it's been the talk of Twitter during games.

Footballers appear to be pre-occupied with their hair like never before.

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"I found out that my haircut got quite a lot of people talking on social media," France defender Mathieu Debuchy told The Associated Press, sporting a hairstyle that can best be described as shaved on the sides with a lizard-shaped comb-over/side-parting.

"So much the better if people talk and communicate about it. I feel good this way, I like it and that's the main thing, no?"

Ever-changing hairstyles used to be the domain of David Beckham, who experimented with the shaved head, the cornrows, the Fauxhawk and bleach-blond look, among others, in the blink of an eye. Now everyone is at it, and the styles are getting bolder and bolder.

Take Portugal superstar Cristiano Ronaldo, for example. The world player of the year had a different hairstyle for each of his three games at the World Cup — for the second, against the United States, he had a zig-zag-style engraving on the right side of his head.

The Mohican is becoming increasingly popular among players and has been best demonstrated at the World Cup by enigmatic Italy striker Mario Balotelli, France midfielder Paul Pogba and Portugal's Raul Meireles.

In fact, Meireles' overall appearance has been one of the sights of the tournament, complementing his wacky hair with a bushy beard and tattoos that appear to cover almost all his body.

When Meireles and U.S. midfielder Kyle Beckerman — famous for his messy dreadlocks — collided in a challenge during their teams' group-stage match, it was more a clash of the haircuts. U.S. Soccer posted on Twitter: "Dreads vs. Mohawk/Beard" with a photo.

Here are five of the craziest hairstyles at the World Cup:

■ **Rodrigo Palacio, Argentina:** With his shaved head except for a rat's tail at the back, Palacio arguably has the most jaw-dropping haircut at the World Cup.

■ **Raul Meireles, Portugal:** His Mohawk has been compared to the one sported by Robert De Niro in 'Taxi Driver.' His thick beard and all-over body tattoos add to his scary-looking appearance.

■ **Marouane Fellaini, Belgium:** The king of the football "Afro" but maybe not for much longer. Fellaini has vowed to chop it all off if Belgium wins the World Cup.

■ **Kyle Beckerman, United States:** Let his curly hair go wild after leaving home some years ago. Now Beckerman looks like the U.S. squad's very own Bob Marley.

■ **Paul Pogba, France:** Not satisfied with having a bleached line through his Mohawk, Pogba also has two bleached stripes on the shaved sides.

Associated Press writers Adriana Gomez and Joji Sakurai and AP Sports Writers Jamie McCauley, Ronald Blum and Jerome Pugmire contributed to this article.



MATTHIAS SCHRADER/AP

United States midfielder Kyle Beckerman



Portugal's  
Raul Meireles  
PAULO DUARTE/AP

## WORLD CUP



FELIPE DANA/AP

The Netherlands' Wesley Sneijder, left, celebrates with Memphis Depay, center, and Klaas-Jan Huntelaar after scoring his side's first goal in the round of 16 match against Mexico in Fortaleza, Brazil, on Sunday. All three can adapt to the Dutch coach's call to change formations late in the match.

## Ability to shift formations puts Dutch in good shape

BY MIKE CORDER  
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — The Netherlands has come from a goal down to win three of its four World Cup matches so far, thanks in part to their swift system swaps.

Louis van Gaal is largely relying on a 5-3-2 formation in Brazil, with two wingbacks expected to push forward in quick-fire counterattacks. But the team has been reverting to the traditional Dutch attacking 4-3-3 system if it falls behind, and Van Gaal also has what he calls "Plan B."

Quarterfinal opponent Costa Rica will have to be nimble to keep up with the Dutch shape shifting when they meet Saturday in Salvador.

The Dutch will have to rebuild their midfield after Nigel de Jong suffered a groin injury against Mexico that has put the rest of his World Cup in serious doubt.

De Jong sat on the touchline of the Dutch training ground Wednesday, eye strapped to his groin, doing some light stretches. A possible replacement, Leroy Fer, also only did light running as he recovers from a hamstring strain.

Dirk Kuyt could be in contention to replace him in the midfield — he's played almost everywhere else in two appearances at the World Cup.

Against Mexico, the versatile veteran started the game at left wingback in a 5-3-2 formation. When the Dutch went a goal down, Van Gaal switched him to right back in a 4-3-3 system. That



Costa Rica vs. Netherlands

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produced pressure on Mexico but no goal, so Kuyt was pushed forward again to play as a center forward in "Plan B" — which was effectively a four-man front line of Arjen Robben on the right wing and Memphis Depay on the left pumping crosses into the penalty area for Kuyt and Klaas-Jan Huntelaar to chase.

When that finally produced an 88th-minute goal for Wesley Sneijder, the team reverted back to 4-3-3 and, as it continued to press forward, Arjen Robben forced a penalty that Huntelaar converted for an unlikely win.

"Yes, it was an escape. But in the second half ... we created far more chances with 4-3-3 and Plan B," Van Gaal said. "So we played three formations and it is a great compliment that players can immediately execute that, but we saw that against Australia, too."

Sneijder, who finally scored his first goal of the World Cup against Mexico after notching five in South Africa four years ago, said the Dutch players are adaptable enough to execute Van Gaal's plans.

"It's all about the team spirit and just to believe in it and go for it," he said. "We are very confident so it's good to come back after being 1-0 down."

Dutch football purists lamented Van Gaal's choice to use a 5-3-2 system ahead of the World Cup, saying it does not produce the free-flowing attacking football that earned the Netherlands a reputation as the Brazilians of European football.

Van Gaal, who has long been a proponent of the 4-3-3 system used by great attacking Dutch teams in the past, defended his decision by arguing he does not have the players to play that way.

Both sides of the argument seem to have been vindicated so far in Brazil.

Van Gaal's more defensive system has meant that his inexperienced defense has managed to restrict two of the tournament's most attacking teams — Chile and Spain — to just one goal between them. The system also helped thrash Spain 5-1, with defender Daley Blind providing long passes to Robin van Persie and Arjen Robben for a pair of stunning goals.

But when he has made the switch to 4-3-3 it has helped the Dutch pull off unlikely wins.

"We've been behind three times in this tournament, against Spain, Australia and Mexico," central defender Rob Vlaar told Dutch magazine Voetbal International, "and each time we managed to turn it around because we keep believing in a good result and, above all, kept going."

## Offensive surge boosts Belgians

Relentless attack on US adds scoring punch to team that shut down foes in group stage

BY RAF CASERT  
The Associated Press

SALVADOR, Brazil — The stirring performance against the United States provided a shot in the arm for Belgium.

Now, with its reputation restored in the wake of a 2-1 victory over the Americans in the second round of the World Cup, Belgium is looking full of confidence ahead of the match against Argentina in Saturday's quarterfinals.

"Argentina must have some doubts now," Belgium coach Marc Wilmots said.

Belgium produced a relentless series of attacks against the Americans, while their defense only started showing cracks in the final minutes of extra time.

In group play, Belgium had made it abundantly clear it was excellent in defense, but three low-scoring, one-goal victories had cast doubt that its forward line could create chances.

Then came 27 shots on goal against the Americans.

It took the best goalkeeping performance of this World Cup from Tim Howard to keep the U.S. team in the match until extra time, but the attacks just never stopped.

And again, Wilmots made savvy substitutions to finally force a way through.

Teenage striker Divock Origi first tired the opposing defense for 90 minutes and peppered Howard with several shots and headers. He then made way for Romelu Lukaku in extra time.

After three minutes, Lukaku was the master behind the first goal when the stretched U.S. defense failed to fully clear his cross, allowing Kevin De Bruyne to steal it back and score from close range.

De Bruyne returned the favor by setting up Lukaku for a booming drive that turned out to be the decisive goal.



Belgium vs. Argentina  
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"We knew that he could be the hero of the night," Belgium captain Vincent Kompany said. "It was so predictable."

It was almost uncanny that two rejects of Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho — Lukaku was twice sent on loan, and De Bruyne was transferred during the winter break — have been providing the goods for Wilmots in World Cup qualifying and at the tournament in Brazil.

And Mourinho's protege, Eden Hazard, again failed to make the creative impact for Belgium. Instead, the sparkling play came from De Bruyne, who revitalized his career over the past months with Wolfsburg in the Bundesliga.

In truth, beyond Howard, the United States looked to be the easiest opponent in the second round with a spongy defense that somehow did not get totally overrun by first-round opposition.

Argentina should be a lot tougher, having conceded only three goals in four games.

Kompany should know what he is up against since he will be playing Manchester City teammates Martin Demichelis and Pablo Zabaleta, who usually are part of his line of defense.

And what's more, the Belgians will no longer be favored against a team which includes Lionel Messi.

"That is a role that will now suit us," Kompany said.



FELIPE DANA/AP

Kevin De Bruyne, left, and Romelu Lukaku provided a spark against the U.S. that gives Belgium confidence against Argentina.

## SPORTS



## Rockets' man?

Carmelo meets with Houston in latest stop on free agency tour | **Page 55**

## WORLD CUP



JULIO CORTES/AP

Jurgen Klinsmann addresses the media on Wednesday after the U.S. was eliminated from the 2014 World Cup in a 2-1 loss to Belgium in Salvador, Brazil, on Tuesday.

# Not ready... yet

## Klinsmann: Much work still ahead for US national team

By RONALD BLUM  
The Associated Press

SAO PAULO

**T**urns out Jurgen Klinsmann was right: The United States isn't ready to win the World Cup.

The Americans were eliminated in the round of 16 for the second straight tournament. They've been ranked 13th or 14th every month since Sep-

tember, which means their exit was pretty much at the stage it's expected to be.

"Clearly it gives you the message you have a lot of work still ahead of you," the U.S. coach said Wednesday, a day after the 2-1 loss to Belgium in extra time.

From Wall Street to the White House to the West Coast, Americans watched their national team on television in record numbers.

**SEE READY ON PAGE 59**

**'People now start to care about it. Fans care about it. They comment on social media. They comment everywhere about it, and that's good.'**

**Jurgen Klinsmann**

U.S. head coach; U.S. Soccer Federation technical director

Next generation of American cyclists look to make mark | **Tour de France, Page 57**

Former champ Kvitova advances to final | **Wimbledon, Page 58**

